

d.c. gazette



ONE OF RON STARK'S PHOTOS NOW ON EXHIBIT AT THE CORCORAN

TOYS 'r' A RIP-OFF

Pandora's farebox

METRO'S takeover of the area bus system threatens to open a Pandora's fare box. An analysis of Metro's application for a federal transportation grant reveals that Washington underground government will actually run deficits millions of dollars greater than those indicated. Further, after Metro has labored mightily for five years, it will have produced, by Metro's own projections, a mouse. Metro estimates that the ridership on area buses will increase by only 12% during the first five years of public operation.

Metro's hidden deficits come from the elimination of depreciation or amortization in its budgets. Metro officials claim that since new equipment will be bought with two-thirds federal money, the item is not necessary and that a capital reserve fund may be developed later.

But what about the one-third local share of capital expenses? And what of the \$3.5 million in depreciation the private companies were listing? By eliminating depreciation, Metro has glossed over one of the most striking characteristics of its early bus policy: an excessive priority for hardware over improved service. If this is the way Metro is going to keep the books, the public may never know how much the system is actually costing them — until Metro puts the squeeze on local jurisdictions for replacement of its assets. A conservative guess is that depreciation costs will actually be about \$6 million a year by 1977, or nearly fifty percent more than the publicly stated deficit.

Metro intends to take four private bus companies that had a combined loss of only a half-million dollars in 1971 and turn them into a publicly owned company that in five years will be losing \$13.5 million a year by Metro's estimate (and about \$20 million by ours). Metro also intends to take four private companies it says are worth \$56 million and spend an additional \$100 million on capital items over the first five years.

For such a massive infusion of capital and subsidy, one might expect everyone in town to be riding the bus. But Metro doesn't. Metro expects passenger revenues to climb from \$56.2 million in 1973 to \$63.1 million in 1977. The 12% projected increase in ridership (Metro's figures assume fares will remain the same) means that Metro hopes by 1977 to bring ridership back only to its 1969 level. Put another way, by 1977 Metro will be paying 75¢ over the fare received for each additional passenger-trip above present levels.

In addition, Metro will be paying about 17¢ per passenger-trip over the fare received to pay for depreciation on new equipment purchased to attract these riders to the system. At least a third of this latter amount will have to come from local taxpayers.

Looking at it another way, if Metro held bus system expenses to their present level and subsidized the fare to the extent of their projected 1977 deficit, we could all ride the bus for 30¢ (25¢ if you throw in the cost of the new equipment). This is even assuming the system attracted no new riders, of which, of course, there would be many.

Metro officials say the ridership projected in the application is too conservative, but the covering letter states, "The applicant represents that the data presented to the Department of Transportation in support of this application are true and correct," and it seems unlikely that Metro would grossly under report expected passenger revenues if it had reason to believe it would receive them. More likely Metro was coming closer to the truth than the public or the affected local governments would like to realize. Unfortunately, Metro has a vested interest in keeping bus ridership within bounds. A vastly increased bus ridership in the next few years would represent a definite threat to the subway, an even more extravagant mass transit project which is Metro's first

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Toys 'r' a rip-off

IF you still have some toys to buy for Christmas and you live in the District of Columbia go to the Sears store at 4500 Wisconsin Avenue NW. Not only are Sears prices lower at this store than any other DC stores recently surveyed by the consumer affairs committee of the Americans for Democratic Action, but they are cheaper than the prices at Sears Far SE and Near NE stores. You can save a little more money by going to the Super Giant Shopping Center at Rockville or Toys R Us in Marlow Heights.

The survey is the latest gift from the ADA consumer affairs group, formerly an annex of the Democratic Central Committee. The group has in the past exposed pricing and sanitation scandals in local supermarkets and drugstores. Excerpts of the toy price survey report follow:

FIFTEEN top-selling toys in every major toy outlet in the city of Washington plus several high-volume suburban stores were priced by senior class high school students from Roosevelt High School and Sidwell Friends School. The surveys were first taken during the week of November 10. The results were so startling that the surveys were rechecked the weekend of November 24.

The 15 best-selling highly advertised toys that were surveyed include: Airport, Inchworm, Big Wheel, Toss Across, Operation, Skittle Pool, Monopoly #9, SSP #8970, Dressy Bessy #4501, Raggedy Anne, Barbie Camper, Talky Chrissy and Look Around Chrissy, Big Jim, Action Jackson and GI Joe, talking and non-talking.

The information tabulated about Skittle Pool, a table-top pool game, serves to illustrate our three major conclusions: we found Skittle Pool in 16 of the 21 stores surveyed — at 11 different prices. They ranged from a high of \$26.99 at McBride's at Minnesota Avenue and Benning Road NE in the inner city to a low of \$13.94 at the Super Giant, Rockville Pike. The difference is \$13.05 or 93.16%. Super Giant, owned by the people who own Giant Food, has some of the lowest prices in the area, but Super Giant is located only in the suburbs.

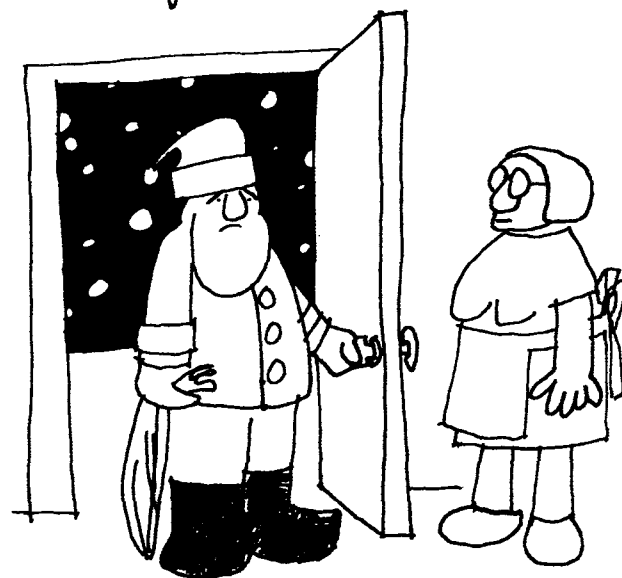
Another toy, GI Joe, was found in 17 stores at 9 different prices ranging from \$9.97 at W&L to \$5.94 at Super Giant — a difference of \$4.00 or 67%.

SSP, a racing car, was found in 19 stores at 12 different prices. The range was a high of \$3.99 at Hecht's and at all three McBride's to a low of \$2.48 at Toys R Us in Maryland. The difference is \$1.51 or 61%. Again, Toys R Us, which used to have a downtown Washington store, is only in the suburbs. On 14 toys, the consumer could save \$24.55 or 22% by shopping at Toys R Us rather than at The Hecht Company.

The inner city consumer did not lose out in every instance: some of the highest prices for individual toys were found at the small, independent stores in upper Northwest. However, specialty toy stores in the affluent areas of the city such as The Carousel Youth Centre in Spring Valley, Chevy Chase Novelty Shop Inc. on upper Connecticut Avenue or Sullivan's on Wisconsin Avenue NW do not compete on the basis of price. These stores emphasize personalized service, unusual and imported toys, beautiful gift wrapping and the like. This survey was conducted solely on the basis of price. Some stores with one or two outlets or a variety of special services would not be expected to compete on the basis of price. Large chains buy their toys directly from manufacturers. Individual stores may buy from a toy jobber and thus have a middleman's price to pay. However, the survey uncovered that stores that were alike in services offered still differed in price.

But for someone without access to a car to get to a suburban shopping center, the knowledge of the great disparity in prices between all the downtown stores can make a tremendous difference in the total cost, or in the total number of toys purchased.

I WAS SKY-JACKED
BY A TEDDY BEAR!



The toy surveyors compared prices at the four major downtown department stores: W&L, Hecht's, Lansburgh's and Kann's. For the six items that all four stores carried — Airport, Big Wheel, Monopoly #8, Dressy Bessy, Raggedy Anne and Big Jim — the total price of all six varied from a high of \$61.45 at Lansburgh's to a low of \$49.44 at Hecht's.

Stated another way, a family could buy \$12.01 more worth of toys for the same total if she chose to shop at Hecht's rather than at Lansburgh's.

In addition to the department stores downtown, four independent stores have large toy departments: Jay Dee's, Bargaintown, Major Discounts and Garrison's. The two stores with names that sound as though they are discount stores — Bargaintown and Major Discounts — actually are almost as high priced as Lansburgh's.

These two 7th Street stores do not compete with one another because they are owned by brothers, although the names give no indication of this. They exploit the poorest people in the city, because they offer no luxuries for shopping, save the hardship of high prices. These are dingy, heartless stores; they offer no special services since lay-away is available at many DC stores. The managers of these stores were most uncooperative.

The only other store where the students encountered difficulties was a member of a chain that also exploits the city's poorest people by charging scandalously high prices for the 15 items. The students were ejected from McBride's on H Street NE, but only just after they had completed their survey. Further, the manager of this McBride's resentfully refused to answer any of the students' questions.

On the 15 toys surveyed, Jay Dee's was the lowest downtown outlet among W&L's, Hecht's, Bargaintown, Major Discounts, Garrison's and Lansburgh's. Coincidentally, the manager of Jay Dee's should help to destroy the myth that it is impossible to do business profitably in the city and yet not gouge the city's shoppers. Further, in the four items that all the downtown stores had on the shelves — Airport, Operation, Monopoly #9 and GI Joe — Jay Dee's was the lowest, at \$30.63; Hecht's and Garrison's were a close second; and Lansburgh's was still the highest, at \$38.96. The percentage increase from lowest to highest is 27%.

Table 5 shows that inner-city residents who shop at Major Discounts and McBride's pay

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Getting renewed on 14th Street

DICK JONES

A GROUP of 14th Street citizens recently filed suit seeking to halt action on the 14th Street urban renewal plan until there is adequate citizen involvement, adequate relocation and correction of a number of other serious defects. Here Dick Jones, one of the plaintiffs and a member of the 14th Street Project Area Committee, describes what has happened in just the few blocks near his home since the area was declared an urban renewal project.

THE story begins about two and one-half years ago when the 14th Street area was declared a Neighborhood Development Program area. At about the same time every essential service which was the responsibility of the government slacked off or just simply stopped doing business. It seems as if all parties responsible except the criminal element threw their hands in the air in despair and said, "Why bother? It's an urban renewal area," as if the mere designation solved the problems that existed past and present. It's also a story of a rapidly diminishing housing inventory that has led to the destruction and detriment of black life and black lifestyle.

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FOURTEENTH STREET

METRO CONT'D

love. Under Metro, it is not likely that the buses will be allowed to compete effectively with the subway. One of the few good arguments that could be made for subcontracting management of the bus system to a private concern is that it would provide an echelon of administrators who would be pro-bus — officials who might, for example, fight the elimination of crosstown bus service that threatens subway ridership.

A close look at Metro's finances is in order; there are too many unanswered questions. For example, Metro is planning to spend \$56 million to purchase the assets of the four bus system. A major asset is the rolling stock

of the companies. But Metro plans to replace 500 of the buses the first year and more each year thereafter. How much is Metro going to pay for equipment that it maintains is so obsolete that it must be replaced? The figures suggest it will be a lot. Further, bus riders have already paid, in higher fares, for present assets of the companies depreciated on the books beyond their fair market value. If Metro pays over the book value for these assets should not O. Roy Chalk et al be forced to pay back to the bus riders the difference between the claimed value of these assets and what Metro paid for them? There is a law suit pending on this issue.

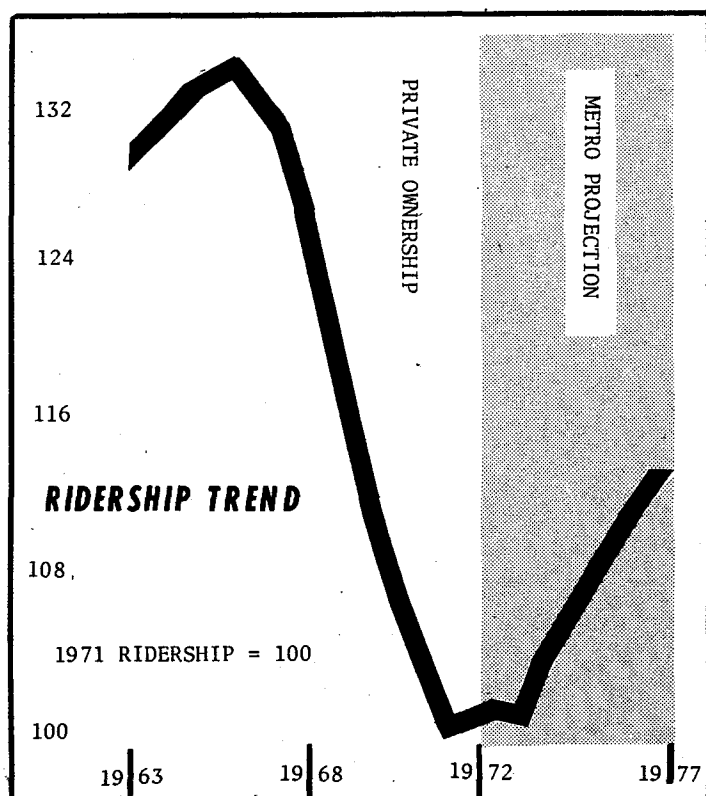
Then there's the \$5 million dollars that Metro plans to spend for two-way radios on all buses. Where is the evidence that this is a worthwhile expenditure of public funds? Metro has yet to present it.

Metro's happy-go-lucky attitude is not entirely its fault. The nature of available

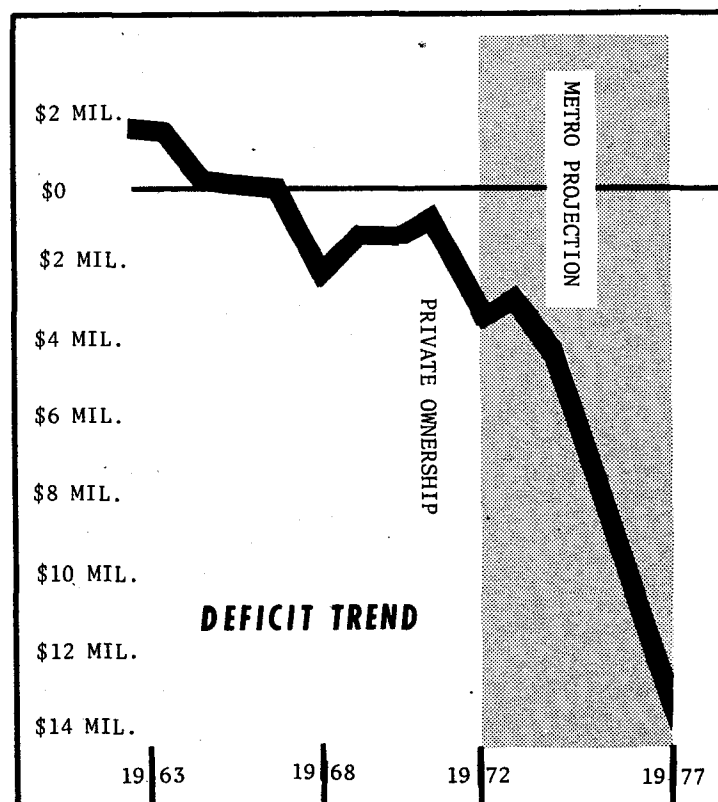
federal money encourages systems to purchase equipment since the funds can't be used to subsidize operations. It is the federal government's way of saying thanks to General Motors. But it also distorts transit planning and makes service the handmaiden of equipment. And the plushest bus won't get through a traffic jam any quicker, even with a two-way radio.

The lesson of Metro is not that public ownership is a bad idea. The lesson is that if you have public ownership there must be effective, detailed and critical community regulation. One witness at the recent bus takeover hearings suggested that at the very least Metro should set up its own independent regulatory body. Far better would be an outside, and elected, Metro board. For even at its best, an adequate transit system will require a subsidy, but without public control of what the subsidy is used for, the very real danger is that we will end up with subsidy without service.

RIDERS & DEFICITS



THIS chart shows the rider volume on four area bus systems in past years under private ownership and as projected by Metro through 1977.



THIS chart shows how much the modest increase in ridership will cost. Annual deficits (or profits) of the four area bus systems over the past decade are shown as our projected Metro deficits through 1977. Note that the pre-Metro figures include depreciation, Metro's don't, meaning that the true deficit will be considerably higher.



The superlist

JAMES RIDGEWAY

BY 1975 the Justice Department will have completed an historic mission, the construction of a national, computerized file containing the names of millions of American citizens. The file is part of a broad "reform," aimed at modernizing the criminal justice system. Some of the names on the file will be those of persons convicted of serious crimes. Others will be names of those charged with but not convicted of serious crimes. In addition, there will be millions of people included because they are thought to be "potentially hazardous" to the national security by local police officials.

HARD TIMES

Still others will be guilty of such misdeeds as adultery, gambling, homosexuality. Women who have had abortions may find their names included in the file. People on welfare, and those with bad credit references will be in the file. Children in California who have been designated by police officers stationed in their kindergartens as members of a "correctionetics" program and thereby eligible for "pre-delinquent behavior modification" may be on the file.

In practice, what does this mean? It will mean that when you are stopped for speeding at 55 miles an hour in a 50 mile an hour zone, the police officer can make a quick check on your background through a sub-system computer network. That network will tell him about your driving and criminal records and it will contain numbers which a computer technician at the police office can use to dial into other subsystems and into a central file for all other information on your past activities. All this information will be available to any local police officer, as well as to any other member of the criminal justice establishment, that is, from the lowliest cop to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

This national file is to be maintained at the federal, state and local levels by means of interfacing subsystems. The central, federal file will be administered by the FBI.

The whole concept is J. Edgar Hoover's most enduring legacy. Hoover was the master filer. He began his government career in the Library of Congress' card catalogue. He was plucked from that job to help build up the new Bureau of Investigation which later was renamed the Federal Bureau of Investigation. In the midst of the Palmer raids, it was Hoover who began to assemble files — all sorts of files on anarchists, syndicalists, socialists, communists, wobblies, esoteric religious groups, obscure nonexistent immigrant groups. Periodically, down through the FBI's history congressmen have asked what ever happened to all the files? Hoover always denied they existed. But it remained a continuing fear that within the FBI there were files on millions of people. When Hoover died, Gray came forward, claimed he had personally searched for the files, but couldn't find them. But the new system, already half completed, is more splendid than anything Hoover dreamed of constructing. It lies at the furthest reaches of science fiction, beyond 1984 and to 20001.

The central file has been made possible by the Omnibus Crime and Safe Streets Act of 1968. That act has resulted in the government pumping over \$1.5 billion into state and local government as well as into private groups for the stated purpose of improving law enforcement. It was under this act that the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) was organized to infuse the states with leadership and direction, and to develop at the federal level new ways of measuring and combating crime, improving the performance of the police, courts, and corrections agencies.

A new report by the Lawyers Committee for

Civil Rights Under Law and the National Urban Coalition makes clear that most of this money has gone to support police departments, providing them funds to buy night sticks, helmets, new fangled military surveillance systems such as laser fences, flashing electric wall maps, and helicopters. But most importantly, the money has been used to develop a network of computerized files on citizens. Meanwhile, LEAA has not instituted one single reform of the criminal justice system.

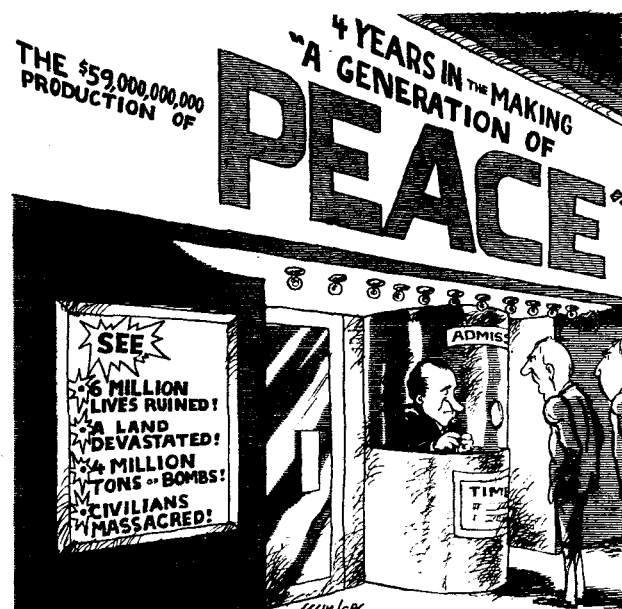
Initially, at the advice of the crime commission, LEAA made experiments in developing a decentralized computerized file of criminal histories. But in 1970, John Mitchell, then Attorney General, decided to centralize this system, called Project Search, and over objections of LEAA, he removed its administration from the law enforcement administration and placed it under the FBI.

More than \$50 million has gone into building up a file system that by 1975 promised computerized criminal history files kept by all 50 states. They in turn will be tied into massive national files maintained by the FBI. The states will place in the FBI file only information of public record pertaining to people who have been accused of "serious and other significant violations." The central file will include histories of persons who violate federal laws or who commit crimes in more than one state and summary histories of offenders who have been involved solely in intrastate crimes. Any authorized inquirer will have access to the central records and will be referred to the relevant state files for further information. The individual state files will include whatever information or intelligence the states choose to put into them and will be accessible on terms defined by each state. Under the FBI, the national file is restricted to data on "serious and other significant violations." That phrase is defined by exclusion. Excluded from the national index will be juvenile offenders as defined by state law (unless the juvenile is tried in court as an adult); charges of drunkenness and/or vagrancy; certain public order offenses, i.e., disturbing the peace, curfew violations, loitering, false fire alarms; traffic violations (except data will be stored on arrests for manslaughter, driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol, and 'hit and run'), and non-specific charges of suspicion or investigation.

But narcotics or mental commitment records will be maintained if they are part of the criminal justice process. Domestic crimes such as non-support or adultery and victimless crimes such as homosexuality, gambling and others are considered "serious" in some jurisdictions. Any state can maintain other material in its files which can be disseminated upon requests referred to the state or local police by the central index. And beside the criminal record data on serious offenders the Justice Department has asserted an absolute right to keep records on persons who are "violence prone," and other "persons of interest" for national security reasons. According to federal policy, each state file is supposed to show the disposition of each case, but in practice local authorities do not remove arrest records that have not resulted in convictions. And no federal law or policy requires deletion of outdated records.

If the provisions for restricting and correcting the system are non-existent or loosely drawn, federal policy is aimed at encouraging other computer systems to link up with the national files network. In New York state, for example, a variety of state agencies and even private firms had access to the network. The private firms checked in for the purpose of clearing potential employees or licensees.

LEAA is now working with both HUD and the National League of Cities to provide mayors and city managers with "integrated municipal information systems." This net is promoted by the National League of Cities as a "signifi-



cantly new approach to the process of local government itself," and will include data from all urban service departments — police, welfare, schools, etc. — as well as underlying demographic and other facts that could be useful in making urban management decisions.

But the most horrific idea of what the LEAA sponsored intelligence file can create is demonstrated in California, where battling crime is a \$1 billion a year boondoggle. The LEAA program in California is administered by the California Council on Criminal Justice (CCCJ). From 1969 through 1971, the state received more than \$62.9 million in LEAA grants, which is only six percent of the state's annual crime busting program. California as a whole has more than 100 different information systems, or files, and Los Angeles County alone has 24 different file systems. The statewide system is called California Criminal Justice Information System or CJIS. CJIS stands midway, interfaced on one hand with FBI's central file complex, and tied into other California state agencies, such as the highway patrol, youth authority, corrections department. While CJIS now contains files on only several hundred thousand persons, it is expected to include files on nine million people within the next few years.

In Los Angeles, the major subsystem is called RJIS, and it in turn is hooked up with a multitude of sub systems in the LA area. RJIS can connect with Patric. Patric attempts to predict those areas where crime is likely to occur and show the police how to develop resources based on those predictions. Its predictions are based on field interviews, crime reports, and various other data. Then there's Lemras, the system that actually allocates police manpower. Ecces on the other hand, deals only with emergency situations. It combines records from police, fire, and other agencies equipped for handling emergencies. Operating by means of an electronic wall map Ecces assigns men and vehicles to the emergency. When completed the Ecces system will have cost \$58 million (probably a conservative estimate), and in addition to everything else, "serve as an energizer to the aerospace industry."

Overall, California wants to develop intelligence systems which contain data on organized crime and "to initiate and develop a coordinated intelligence system for the collection, analysis, interpretation and dissemination of information on riots and disorders." Since the state has not been able to define either category, militants and dissidents are lumped together under either or both. The Huntington Beach police department, for instance, received a grant for a special intelligence unit to concentrate on "the movements of militants and persons associated with organized crime." In Alameda county, the PIN information system collects data on "persons who are considered potentially hazardous to law enforcement."

The CJIS system, that is, the overall state system, is not subject to safeguards against invasion of privacy. The danger of abuse in California is great, not only because of the proliferation of intelligence files but also because of the possibility of interfacing these computerized files with those of other state agencies. For example, the education system

maintains computerized files on individuals. So does the health department, which includes data on all persons who had abortions. These computer files include details about the circumstances of the abortion.

In addition to building California intelligence systems, LEAA money has gone for equipping police departments. Much of the money has gone into the purchase of helicopters. San Francisco has a chopper patrol called Project Sky Watch. Sonoma County got chopper funds for "surveillance, pursuit... and airborne command post during emergencies." Helicopter funds went to Long Beach for the "suppression of burglaries and violent street crimes to an acceptable level."

Some LEAA money grants are expended on futuristic programs for youngsters that begin in kindergarten. These "anti crime" programs concentrate on learning problems, drug abuse education and so forth. Some programs are des-

cribed in terms of behavior modification - the "behavior assessment and treatment center" in Orange county, for instance. There is a scheme for "simplified analytical methods of behavior systematization" in San Diego, a grant for a "community-based behavior modification program for pre-delinquents" in Ventura county. The state-wide CCCJ is funding a program called "correctionetics," a plan to computerize and centralize all juvenile records, including information on psychiatric treatment. The description of the file contents is vague, but is expected to include comments and information supplied by police officers and other state officials stationed within schools to work with pre-delinquent youths.

Finally, in California there is the California Technical Research Foundation, until recently the CCJ's science and technology task force. The foundation is now an independent organization. Foundation publications

say, "It is science's turn," and warn "Unless we keep ourselves strong the revolutionists will replace our values with theirs by force." In its first three years of operation the foundation got \$2 million in state and federal grants. It hopes to develop computer intelligence systems, works up management programs, and concocts physical security systems such as the "laser security fence" for low income housing development projects. It has a special riot control project which includes development of "early detection measuring devices for the propensity of a person to riot or commit a criminal act..." The foundation is hard at work studying the "etiology of civil disorders." It has struck up a close relationship with NASA which has resulted in use of NASA technology for photo image processing and transmission of finger prints. Now the foundation is answerable only to the Governor, and is generally viewed as his own private National Science Foundation.

More powerful than bombs

JIM WIGGINS

DETROIT-- The North Vietnamese believe that their willingness to sign the Kissinger peace agreement has given them "a political weapon perhaps more powerful than bombs." They are confident that if national elections ever take place under the provisions of the agreement, they will win. However, they are worried that the United States will never implement the plan.

This was the message brought back from Hanoi by Tom Hayden, whose activities go back to the first days of the American peace movement.

Hayden said North Vietnamese officials believe that in terms of Vietnamese and world opinion, the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (DRV) and the liberation forces in the South "now have the banner of peace, while the United States and the Thieu regime - still seeking to better their position at the negotiating table - are being cast as obstacles to a peace settlement. This will help DRV's political position among the people in the south, they think, because "peace is a greater desire than any other aspiration."

The North Vietnamese fear, however, that their actions in signing the agreement will be interpreted by the United States as a sign of weakness, to be followed by continued warfare in some form. "Their sense of betrayal is very, very great," said Hayden.

Hayden and other anti-war leaders were in Detroit at a national meeting of the Indochina Peace Campaign to report on their findings in North Vietnam, and to devise American anti-war strategy for the coming months.

He said the North Vietnamese fear that it will be weeks or months before the U.S. agrees to sign the treaty. The United States government is buying time in order to stuff Saigon full of American weapons.

Prime Minister Pham Van Dong told Hayden that North Vietnam is prepared to continue its eight-month offensive if the agreement breaks down, and is capable of "a further level which can be unfolded if necessary."

"They told us that if Nixon wants to fight for another four years or longer, we'll fight for another four years or longer," said Hayden.

Hayden said morale was still high among the North Vietnamese who showed "a spirit of readiness and organization that still confounds everyone." He described Hanoi as "a clean old shirt patched many times over" and reported that large numbers of new automobiles and motor bikes are visible on the streets. He said the Vietnamese joke about the vehicles smelling of new paint - an allusion to the fact that they were imported since last spring, when Haiphong

harbor was mined by the United States in an effort to cut off supplies.

Hayden suggested that if the agreement is ever ratified, the "so-called" post-war period could be more important to the anti-war movement than the formal war because it will involve the Vietnamese attempting to rebuild their country while trying to resist economic neocolonialism from U.S. and Japanese business interests. - DWSI

The death of a party

DAVID McREYNOLDS

THE Socialist Party was born in 1900 from a split with the older Socialist Labor Party. Led by Eugene Victor Debs, the party was a major force in American life, building on the old Populist roots in the South and Midwest, embracing the immigrants in the great cities, defending the rights of the emerging trade union movement, drawing strength from the brawling rebels in the mining and lumber industries in the distant Northwest. It is easy to forget that in 1920, with a much smaller voting population, Eugene Victor Debs polled nearly a million votes from his Atlanta prison cell.

Even after the tragic split in the movement, following the Russian Revolution, and despite the Palmer Raids, the repression of the twenties, and the death of Debs, the party continued as a significant force under the leadership of Norman Thomas. It was not until the Second World War that the party shrank to such an extent that it was only another sect, competing with the decimated ranks of the communists and trotskyists. But it was at least a sect, it did exist. With the death of Norman Thomas, Michael Harrington sought to bear the burden of party leadership.

However something else had happened: in 1958 the neo-Trotskyist group known as the Shachtmanites had entered and finally took control of the party. The Shachtmanites were linked to the worst elements in Labor, ardent supporters of Israel, "critical" supporters of the war in Vietnam and openly hostile to the New Politics and youth culture. Harrington, decent if not always courageous, refused to share in this new rather reactionary orientation. Rejecting an alliance with Left elements in the party, which began drifting out in 1970, and finally split in 1972 when at least four locals left to form the "Union of Democratic Socialists" Harrington found himself at the end without a base. The center he had sought to lead was too small in numbers, the right of the party rejected him, and in 1972 he was humiliated by being reduced from the post of chairman to one of three co-chairmen, the other two being Bayard Rustin and Sascha Zimmerman.

Harrington was the last major public figure the SP had, and his resignation as co-chairman leaves the party without any "public

face," without a single link to the past of Thomas and Debs. Harrington left on the grounds that the party had come close to endorsing Nixon (they made a very limited public statement supporting McGovern, but it was known that the inner circles of the Party favored Nixon); that they were obsessed by anti-Communism; were unwilling to offer leadership to the trade union movement, preferring the creature comforts that flowed from accepting and implementing the line of George Meany; and had cut themselves off entirely from the New Politics of the youth.

The question really is whether those who now control the SP any longer need it. Their Bolshevik past has long since been forgotten, they are accepted in all the right places, and the party may simply be buried. Certainly Harrington was one of the few in the SP who still can even be called a socialist. The SP recruits a few youth but it has been fatally compromised by its recent past.

The tragedy is that America now lacks a democratic socialist movement. Perhaps the New American Movement will fill this vacuum; perhaps nothing can. But the Socialist Party, even though it still seems to talk and walk, is only a sad artifact manipulated by outside forces. If and when it has served its purpose, the last string will be cut and the party collapse, to rest at last. Whatever of dreams there were in it and whatever of decency will need to be reborn in altogether new forms.

THE death penalty "may discourage a few potential murderers but it encourages far more killings." This assertion was made by Stanford University professor Anthony Amsterdam at a recent press conference called to denounce efforts to reactivate California's gas chambers. Two Stanford professors of psychiatry who agreed with Amsterdam's statement told reporters there are numerous psychological studies which demonstrate that "very, very, very few" killers are deterred by the death penalty. These are far outnumbered by people who commit murders in the hope that they will be caught and executed. For these murderers, killing is really an act of suicide. (M.Schiffenbauer/AFS)

GARBANZO beans (also called chick peas) reduce blood cholesterol levels, improve blood circulation and lower the incidence of coronary heart disease. These findings were reported by British researcher Dr. Hugh Trowell, who studied a group of people in India that consumed large amounts of chick peas as part of their regular diet.

NEWS NOTES

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DAVID McReynolds was a member of the Socialist Party for 19 years. For ten of those years he was on the National Committee. The article above appeared in WIN Magazine.

DC SCHOOLS

Budgets and action

IN the first ten months of the new school board's life, it has held 164 meetings. Sixty per cent of them have dealt with finance.

Now once again the school board administration will have to spend many man-weeks begging, pleading, justifying and adjusting as the fiscal year 1974 school budget makes its way through the labyrinthian legislative maze before it.

The nub of the situation is this:

In fiscal year 1973, the school system received \$146.5 million. It now faces some \$7 million in mandatory increased costs next year such as in-grade pay raises and added utility costs. In addition another \$12 million is required to meet the pay raises for teachers approved by Congress. Then the school system would like \$11 million more to provide added services such as

- . Restoring reading teachers to the budget
- . Expanding the number of math teachers
- . Upgrading playgrounds to conform with safety standards
- . Expanding the career development programs designed to prepare students for "realistic career entry employment."
- . Providing added counselor and health education staff
- . Providing new science equipment
- . Expanding the number of full-day kindergartens
- . Improving maintenance services.

The total comes to \$176 million. The Commissioner has indicated that the school system can have \$168.5 million, meaning that most of the proposed improvements would have to be scrapped.

The figures can be looked at several ways. On the one hand there is the fact of Washington's high per pupil spending; on the other hand is the fact that DC spends less of its budget on education than do a number of large cities. For example, in FY 1970, Atlanta was spending 47% of its budget on education and Boston 34% while the District was spending only 24% (up to 25% this past year). On the one hand, Julius Hobson is right when he said, "You can't finance a rat-hole;" on the other hand, it seems absurd to hold the city's school expenditures under a microscope while giving Jerry Wilson every toy he requests.

The school system went under a budgetary scalpel this past year that made a larger incision than any other local agency has had to endure recently. It was not an entirely unsalutary experience. The school system may be hurting for personnel and funds in some areas, but

it is also free of a certain amount of fat and redundancy. That fat would never have been trimmed if the school system had not been forced to make cuts. New programs would simply have been added on the old. Even Hugh Scott admits that if he got the cut money back he would use it in a different way than it was being used before.

It could be that, budgetary questions aside, government agencies should be required periodically to make cuts in their operations just to force them to get rid of extra cargo. It is a hell of a good way to get your priorities straight.

But the experience should not be too prolonged. And the time seems right to give the school system the funds to permit Scott and the School Board to move out in new directions.

It would have helped the cause of getting these funds, however, if the board and the superintendent had moved out a bit more without waiting for the money. Too often people who say they can't do anything until they get the money don't do anything when they get the money. The strongest argument for increasing the school budget would have been more action by the board and superintendent.

Sure, both have been bogged down saving their financial necks. Hugh Scott has been further bogged down saving his professional neck.

(Please turn to page 6)

Postal preverts strike again

SAM SMITH

WARN your children. The postal preverts are at it again. Rising from the dented bins in the catacombs of the Main Post Office, up from hours leering at the covers of seed catalogues, holding letters from the March of Dimes up to the light, buckling credit company window envelopes to catch a glimpse of how much the recipient is being dunned, reading postcards, thumbing through the National Cannery Monthly for surreptitious erotica, the postal inspectors are loose again.

In fact, one came by my office the other day. He was a pleasant enough fellow if a bit pasty from too many hours in the mailroom and a little portly from too many trips to the Macke machine. But looks are deceiving and no sooner had I admitted the man to my office on

the grounds that he was an inspector for the United States Postal Service, than he began pushing filthy pictures. At least he thought they were. He announced that he was delivering my copy of the Daily Rag, the acrosstown underground né Colonial Times, and that it was the opinion of the Postal Service that the cover was obscene. He said, "Now what we would like you to do is to refuse receipt of the publication and return it to us."

Naturally I was titillated by this strange proposal, but upon viewing the cover found it to contain only a dowdy cartoon lady with mammary glands bulbous but properly covered. She was wearing a button that read "Fuck the Food Tax."

Would I refuse it, the inspector asked again. No, I said and then hurtled into a heated discourse on First Amendment issues, adding that I thought that if what the inspector was doing wasn't illegal it certainly was immoral. I said that the Postal Service had no right going around soliciting public complaints against newspapers and that besides, it was a pretty curious way for a deficit-ridden organization to drum up business.

I shouldn't have done it. Reporters are meant to ask questions, not answer them and by the time I had completed my tour of the legal, moral and theological issues involved in the inspector's suggestion, the inspector had decided not to answer any of my questions, referring me instead to a Mr. Souder, a superior inspector, who later told a Washington Post reporter: "And let me add: I'm sixty years old, and maybe some things are obscene to me that aren't obscene to other people."

My visitor departed to continue his search for offended Daily Rag subscribers, and I was left to ponder whether there was any form you could use to stop the receipt of offensive postal inspectors. It also occurred to me that since the postal inspector's duty was to make me see something obscene in something I found patently inoffensive, he was engaged in the act of pandering and that I should have sworn out a complaint against him.

Jean Lewton, associate editor of the Gazette, had been in the room during the interchange and noted after the inspector had left that he had carefully shielded the awful cover from her eyes.

The matter has now attracted the attention not only of the Postal Service but of the American Civil Liberties Union and an activist lawyer delighted at the prospect of taking on the government over the issue should it care to press the matter.

Meanwhile, neither the Daily Rag nor I have heard more from the U.S. Postal Service. Hopefully Mr. Souder and his legman have returned to more creditable public pursuits such as preventing people from sneaking in pest-infested seal meat from Canada or piranhas from Brazil.

VOTE FOR KAY CAMPBELL McGRATH

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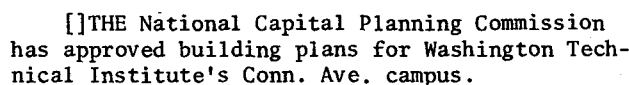
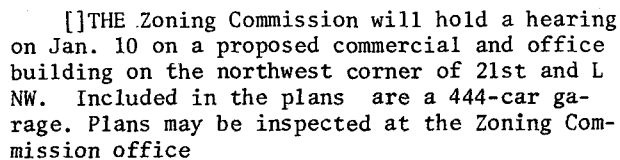
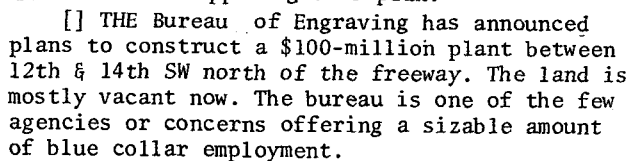
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(Please turn to page 19)

SCHOOLS CONT'D

The money the system has asked for new programs amount to only six per cent of the total requested budget. It is money that should be spent, if for no other reason than we can't afford not to take the chance that it might be spent well. But the real question is: what will the board and Scott do about the other 94 per cent?

d.c. gazette

543-5850

— Anonymous

ARTICLE POLICY

The Gazette welcomes articles and letters. Articles 1000 words or less and letters of less than 500 words stand the best chance of being printed. We also welcome photographs. We cannot, unfortunately, pay for contributions at this time. If you wish unused contributions returned, please enclose a stamp, return addressed envelope. Mail manuscripts to the D:C. Gazette, 109 8th St. NE, DC 20002.

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WITH THE PEOPLE Controlling police

CHUCK STONE

COMMUNITY control of the police is like castor oil, as far as the police are concerned. This extension of democracy into the police force would actually help police, but they hate it, to quote David the Psalmist, "with a perfect hatred."

To the average policeman, any talk about "community control" is equated with intent to hamstring and harass policemen. They view it as unknowledgeable community interference with the discharge of their professional responsibilities.

But community control of the police is an idea whose time has come.

In Chicago, a group called Citywide Coalition for Community Control of Police has organized to force referendum on this issue in the 1975 city elections — the court of last resort.

Police corruption and police brutality are excruciatingly unhappy facts of life in many major cities.

Not by the most extravagant stretch of the imagination can anybody maintain that these shortcomings are characteristic of the average policeman. As is true of the average citizen, the average policeman is an honest, hard-working and dedicated professional determined to raise his family and perform his duties with compassionate skill.

But some policemen — as do some people — do steal, do brutalize people and do accept bribes.

In New York City, the Knapp Commission has exposed the existence of extensive corruption within police ranks.

In Cleveland, Mayor Ralph Perk recently shook up the highest levels of the police command to bring about greater and more honest and efficient law enforcement.

In Philadelphia, both a federal report and the city District Attorney have admitted that widespread police corruption exists.

In Dallas, Texas, black citizens marched on City Hall after what they called the unnecessary killing of black people by policemen.

And in Chicago, of course, police corruption once became such a political liability that even insensitive Mayor Daley was forced to replace the then police chief with a prominent criminologist, Orland Wilson who, incidentally, did improve the police image.

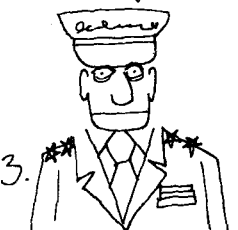
But it has begun to sink back into the mud of distrust and alienation, not only within the black community, but among Chicagoans who are disturbed about recent successive exposes of police involvement in murder and burglaries.

So, the City Coalition for Community Control of Police has come up with a seven page draft ordinance which, if adopted, places the police under the control of a nine-member board in each of the 21 police districts.

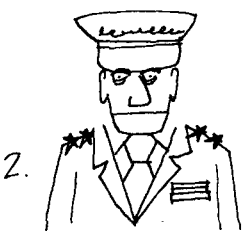
I'VE HEARD COMPLAINTS ABOUT OUR PLANS FOR GENERALS' HOUSES AT BOLLING...



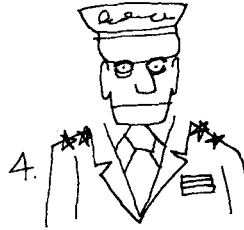
BUT I TELL YOU THAT IF WE'D HAD A GENERAL PER ACRE THERE BEFORE...



IT'S BEEN SAID THAT AN ACRE OF LAND FOR EACH HOUSE IS EXCESSIVE...



THE BRITISH WOULD NEVER HAVE TAKEN WASHINGTON!



The proposed ordinance is almost identical in content to a proposal developed back in 1968 in Washington by the Black United Front of which I was a board member. Eight blacks had been killed by police in one eight month period. The circumstances each time had been questionable. None of the blacks were wanted criminals at the time.

Five of us — Stokely Carmichael, the BUF chairman; Rev. Walter Fauntroy; Charles Cassell; Ms. Jean Hughes, BUF secretary; and myself — spent a pleasant summer afternoon on my front porch drafting a four page document which the BUF presented to the City Council.

The City Council rejected it, but the police department did develop a much higher threshold of sensitivity to the black community. Law enforcement simultaneously improved.

Under the proposed Chicago ordinance, local citizen boards would have the power to: 1) hire and fire all police employees; 2) approve or disapprove policies of the department; 3) handle grievance procedures; and 4) develop a police force reflecting the city's racial makeup.

Community control of police is the best friend the police could have. It makes the community ultimately responsible for successful law enforcement. That may be castor oil, but even the police ought to welcome its cleansing properties.

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The student renter

ANN MARIE CEGELSKI

REPRESENTATIVES of American, Georgetown, George Washington, Catholic and Howard universities have joined in an attempt to end housing discrimination against area students. The newly formed Federation of Washington Area College and University Students and its supporters, carried placards in front of the District Building recently in near freezing weather and petitioned the City Council to hold hearings on the issue.

According to attorney Gladys Kessler, the groups would present testimony at such hearings showing landlord discrimination against single women, the elderly, single parents, welfare mothers and homosexuals.

At issue is the blanket refusal of some landlords to rent to certain groups solely on the basis of the occupational or student status. Even if a young man or woman has proven financial security, a well-paying job, offers a disproportionately high security deposit, or offers an older person as co-signer of a lease, he or she may still be denied an apartment.

Eugene Goldman, president of the American University Student Confederation, complained: "Many landlords just turn us down flat as if we had the plague, and students are getting tired of being pushed around as if they had fewer rights than the rest of the apartment-renting public." He also cited the case of the Berkshire Apartments on Massachusetts Avenue, which conspicuously displays an "apartment available sign. Upon examination it turns out that there are no "apartments available" — at least for the students.

The student leaders also pointed out the contributions to the Washington area by students, in their roles as consumers of goods and services sold by the community, especially so since many of those that can afford to attend the universities are reasonably secure financially. Recently students have also begun to take an interest and active involvement in local city politics.

The president of the student association at Georgetown, John S. Kennedy, complained

(Please turn to page 19)

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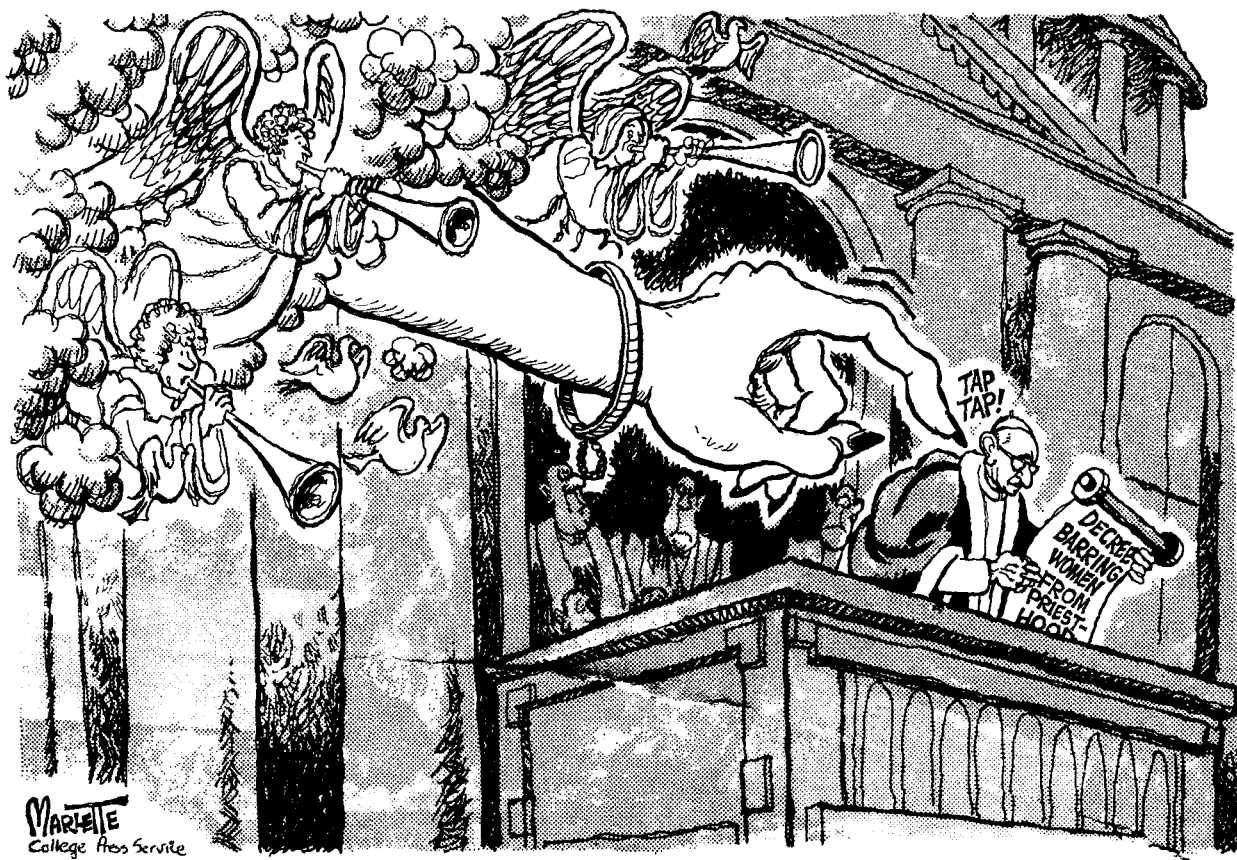
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LETTERS

Rape

THE Rape Crisis Center deplores the decision to acquit in the attack on two George Washington University coeds. This decision is not unique in a society that refuses to see rape victims as victims of a violent crime. The legal requirement that a victim cannot have consented to have intercourse with her assailant is usually seen in a way that fails to consider normal patterns of fear and shock. The center questions whether the members of the jury would have submitted if they were faced by an attacker who might kill them at any sign of resistance. And would they have considered such a lack of resistance "consent?" All too often it is easier to judge what we might have done when we are safely out of danger.

As a part of its on-going activity the Center plans to study the transcripts and other aspects of the case to see what actions might prevent a reoccurrence of this type of decision.

RAPE CRISIS CENTER

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FOURTEENTH STREET COMMUNITY MEETING. DICK JONES IS AT LEFT.

14TH ST. CONT'D

I live at 14th and Girard Streets, NW where about 18 months ago, at the corner of my block stood several apartment buildings. The addresses were 1401- 1405 Girard Street and around the corner was 2804 14th Street, a part of the same apartment complex with approximately 173 units owned and operated by Lyman C. Delle and Company.

Even at that time, the buildings though fully occupied were crime infested, in disrepair, with the black tenants fearful and bitter about what little maintenance and management survived the abandonment of the building by the owner except for the collecting of rents. The existing and increasing housing violations were ignored by government and the owner until all of the so-called decent tenants (those not involved in crime or crime related activity) simply were pushed out. The Redevelopment Land Agency at that time denied responsibility for the building or relocation because the buildings were not in an action area, completely ignoring HUD's regulations implementing the Uniform Relocation Act.

The situation increased in intensity with the crime element (a few squatters and home-steaders); taking over those who thought they could deal with the problem of living in a wide open building complex on 14th Street.

Muggings, shootings, house breakings, and all manner of criminal activity increased tremendously. The Metropolitan Police Department, District government, RLA and everyone else including the mayor were contacted and apprised of the problem; all were seemingly helpless to deal with it. The only one who could get a handle on the situation was the firebug, setting fires at the rate of three to five a day and at all hours of the night. He was successful in liberating the buildings from the crime element, sending them screaming into the streets.

The firebug and criminal element established the fact that they could do more to destroy black life and lifestyle than all the government forces combined could do to prevent it. The rape and ravish of the three building complex diminished the housing inventory by 173 units. The process did not stop with the firebug putting the crime element in the street; even on 14th Street crime needs a cover or a base of operations. It found that base one block south at 1400 Fairmont Street. This is a 74-unit apartment building similar to the buildings of the Clifton Terrace Complex.

The building was then being maintained and managed by Capital Realty Company in a state of near collapse, in disrepair and proceeding unabated on its downhill spiral. This building, along with the entire block, was included in our first year action plans, yet at the time the tenants were being vandalized, brutalized, harassed, and bombed out of the area, no government authority or agency could offer them any relief.

At this juncture the firebug went back into action to complete the job, with the ravishment of a 74-unit apartment building adding to our already rapidly diminishing housing stock. With the closing of 1400 Fairmont Street, one would assume that government would begin to take action. That assumption was grossly incorrect.

The criminal element, feeling its power and the inability of government to cope with it or police it, ran amuck, transferred its operation diagonally north and across the street to 2701 14th Street, the Amsterdam apartment building owned and operated by Bernstein. A recently renovated apartment building (though faultily maintained and managed) of approximately 160 units. The criminal element moving into high gear with a series of murders, once again drove the decent tenants kicking and screaming into the streets. He did not stop there because the firebug went back into action, and Bernstein, conceding defeat, issued 30-day notices to all the tenants and proceeded to amplify his defeat by closing the housing portion of his building down. This of course left the tenants in dire straits since RLA claimed no responsibility for relocation be-

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cause it was outside of the action areas. Presently, though there are few tenants still in the building, the firebug's acitivities continues, with the final stages diminishing 160 more units of housing that could have been saved had government taken decisive and immediate action to correct the situation.

With the closing of the Amsterdam apartment building, the criminal element highly or-

ganized, well-coordinated and financed did not even have to delay or stop operation. It simply moved directly across the street to 1401 Fairmont Street where at this juncture business is proceeding as usual. This is another apartment building of approximately 67 units of family housing, operated, owned and maintained by RLA. It also has a series of housing violations with the most recent being sabotage of the

heat and hot water systems. Tenants fearful of the crime element and bitter against the agency for its inability to deal with the issues are threatening a rent strike. A series of so-called suicides have occurred along with the blatant brutalization of tenants on a daily basis. It is crystal clear that inaction by those responsible will only exacerbate an already intolerable and death-dealing situation.

TOYS CONT'D

more than affluent out-city residents pay at Chevy Chasc Novelty, Sullivan's, Sears (Wis. Ave.NW) or W&L (Chevy Chase) for the toys surveyed.

One of the more important facts uncovered by the survey is that the three Sears stores are the most competitively priced stores in the District on the 15 high-volume toys surveyed. In an market basket of 13 toys, the Alabama Ave Sears is only 86¢ more expensive than the Rockville Super Giant. However, Toys R Us is lowest - almost \$9 cheaper on this same market basket than is Sears, Alabama Ave. SE.

Sears offers stores to people in two major sections of the city, SE and NE, where there is little effective competition. The people in these sections need these Sears stores or they would be at the mercy of such stores as McBride's. Sears offers all of the services of McBride's (lay-away and others) plus many extra services, large selection, reasonably

pleasant shopping surroundings and rather orderly presentation of stock. The management at the branches were most cooperative with our surveyors. But most of all, Sears offers competitive prices. The comparison between prices at Sears, Alabama Ave. SE, and McBride's across the street on Alabama Ave SE, is shocking. On a market basket of 7 toys, the consumer could save \$16.79 or 32% at Sears - on just seven toys.

A disturbing aspect of the otherwise rosy picture of Sears' toy prices was that Sears White Oak suburban store and Sears Wisconsin Ave NW store had the same price level on all 15 toys surveyed; however, on 10 of these 15 toys, Sears Bladensburg Rd NE or Sears Alabama Ave SE had slightly higher prices than the Wisconsin Ave NW store or the White Oaks store. For example, the Sears Alabama Ave SE store is approximately 7% higher than the Sears Wisconsin Ave NW store on the 11 toys each had in stock.

On November 30, when the Committee contacted Mr. C. L. Huntley, Sales Promotion Manager of the Sears Washington-Baltimore area, and told him of the price differentials, he was shocked and dismayed. Mr. Huntley insisted that Sears has a "group pricing policy" which means that all Sears' prices should be the same in

every store in the District-Maryland area. He reiterated that this pricing policy was strictly enforced. He took down the list of the 15 toys surveyed, said he would have their prices checked in all the Sears stores.

Mr. Huntley made a follow-up call to the Committee on December 1. He thanked the Committee for bringing the matter to his attention and said that any price discrepancies were being corrected immediately. He is so instructing his Division Managers at a meeting.

Americans spend \$3 billion a year buying toys. At least half of this is spent in November and December. In the Nation's capital some stores do as much as 60% of their total toy volume in November and December. Many DC stores enlarge their toy department especially for Christmas buying. For example, Garrison's does 60% of its toy business at the Christmas buying season. Kann's does 75% of its toy business at Christmas and quadruples the size of its toy department at this time; Jay Dee's also expands its toy department in November in preparation for Christmas and does 80% of its toy business in this season.

CITY V. SUBURBS

SAMPLE TOY PRICES

Toy	.No. of Stores Visited	No. of Differ- ent Prices	City		Suburb		Price Differ- ence	% increase over mini- mum price
			Highest Price	Store	Lowest Price	Store		
GI Joe- talking	17	9	\$ 9.97	W&L	\$ 5.94	Toys R Us Super Giant	\$ 4.03	67.00
Skittle Pool	16	11	26.99	McBride's (Ben. Rd)	13.94	Super Giant	13.05	93.61
Barbie Camper	17	12	15.50	Carousel	8.48	Toys R Us	7.02	83.00
Monopoly. #9	21	10	7.00	Carousel	3.93	Super Giant	3.07	78.00
SSP	19	12	3.99	Hecht's McBride's (3 stores)	2.48	Toys R Us	1.51	61.00

NW PRICES

Toy	Chevy Chase Novelty	Sears (Wis. Ave NW)	Sulli- van's	W&L (Chevy Chase)
Airport	\$15.98	\$11.99	\$14.99	\$16.88
Operation	5.59	3.99	4.99	4.90
Monopoly #9	5.98	3.99	4.99	5.50
SSP	3.98	3.99	3.29	3.44
Barbie Camper	11.98	9.99	12.99	12.88
Total	\$44.51	\$32.95	\$41.25	\$43.60

DOWNTOWN PRICES

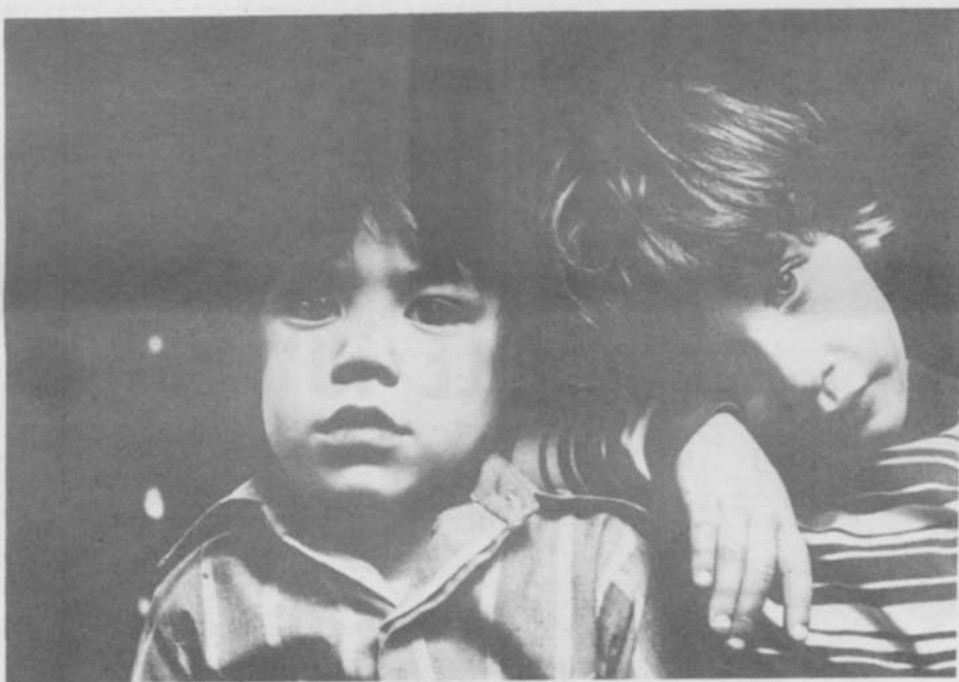
Toy	W&L (F St)	Hecht's	Lansburgh's	Kann's
Airport	\$16.88	\$12.99	\$18.99	\$12.99
Big Wheel	12.88	12.99	17.99	18.98
Monopoly #9	5.50	4.99	5.99	5.50
Dressy Bessy	7.49	10.99	9.99	8.69
Raggedy Anne	3.95	3.49	3.99	3.50
Big Jim	4.60	3.99	4.50	4.69
Total	\$51.30	\$49.44	\$61.45	\$54.35

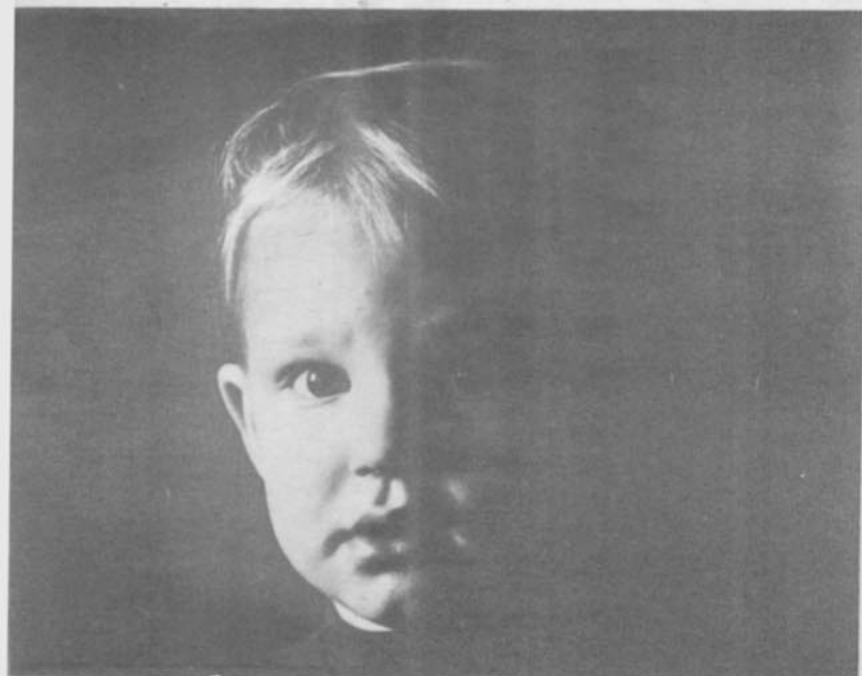
SEARS PRICES

Toy	Sears Wisconsin Ave NW	Sears Bladensburg Rd NE	Sears Alabama Ave SE
Airport	\$11.99	\$12.97	\$13.99
Big Wheel	11.99	13.33	12.44
Toss Across	9.99	11.33	10.40
Operation	3.99	4.46	4.22
Skittle Pool	15.99	13.97	15.99
Monopoly #8	3.99	3.97	3.99
SSP	2.99	2.29	2.29
Raggedy Anne	3.20	4.42	5.16
Barbie Camper	9.99	10.27	10.12
GI Joe (talk)	4.99	6.49	6.49
(non-talk)	3.83	4.39	3.83
Total	\$82.94	\$87.89	\$88.92



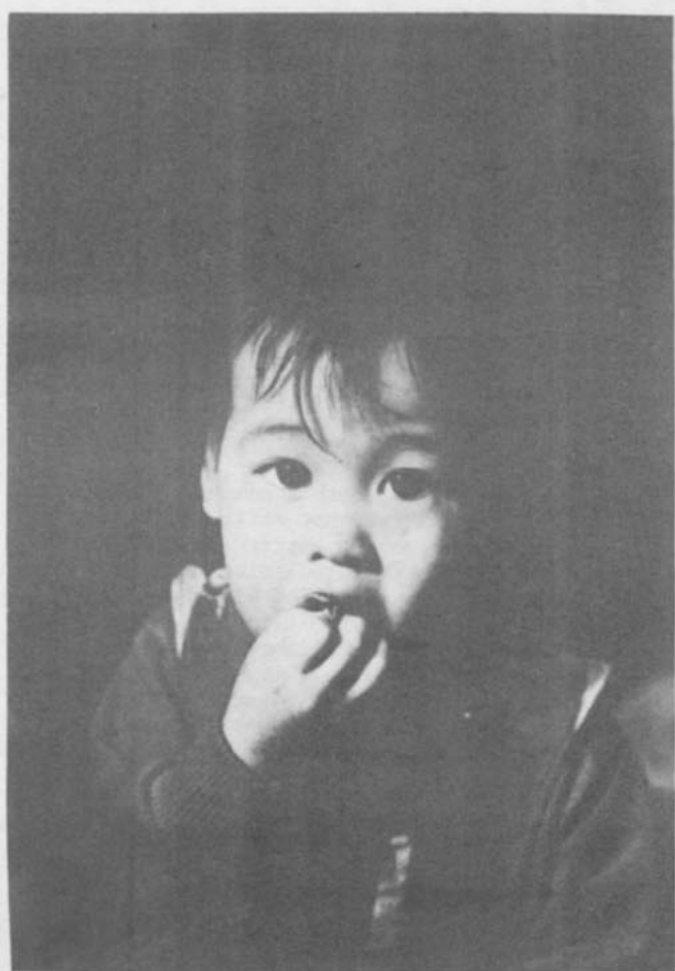
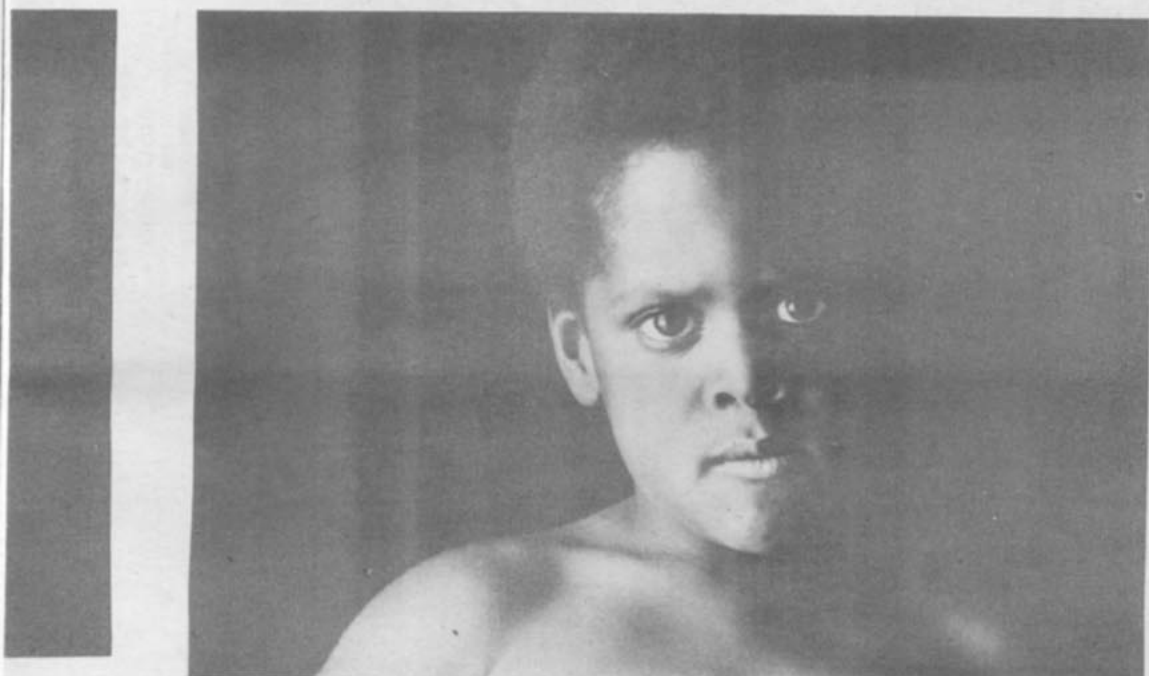
CHILDREN ARE. . . .





f-STOP

PHOTOS BY ROLAND FREEMAN



ART Prints in the Barn

ANDREA O. COHEN

A COMMON problem of group shows is a failure to hang together. "No cohesion, no unifying theme or purpose" is the critic's frequent refrain. The prints on exhibit through January at the Art Barn have in common, among other things, the fact that most are first experiments with etching and lithography, and all were done at John Sirica's Printmaker's Workshop. Located at 514 10th Street, NW, it is the only facility of its kind south of New York. Moreover, while other graphics workshops are big business operations, which print only for galleries and commercial publishers at high prices, the Printmaker's Workshop is an intimate place, run by artists for artists, and charges only for the number of prints pulled.

John Sirica is also artist-in-residence at the National Collection of Fine Arts, where he runs a successful printmaking workshop for public school children. Together with lithographer, Angelo Hodick and Associate Director, Jane Farmer, he instructs at the Workshop as well as being master craftsman. Impelled by an almost missionary spirit about printmaking, he is looking for funds to train printmakers, is planning traveling shows (the first of which will go to Chicago), and, no kidding, is proclaiming a new Washington Color School, based on one color: black. "Black is color; it sings. You don't need others. How you bring out the black makes all the difference to the print." The success of Sirica's proselytizing for printmaking is evidenced in the quality of the present Art Barn show.

Apart from quality, the exhibitors have in common a tendency toward the real and surreal. A generous sprinkling of whimsy and lyricism prevents most of the works from projecting that depressive broodiness and harshness, which is the hallmark of much of today's new realism.

Here are some highlights of the exhibit:

First, is John Sirica, who in his complex and playful handling of line, seems to know and utilize every nuance of the medium. He is represented here by a wispy, hairline etching of Einstein, another of Freud. I will leave to those two gentlemen the analysis of Sirica's more abstract less successful self-portrait also on view.

Carlos Pavada, a Costa Rican who periodically returns to Washington where he studied etching with Sirica, has a single line drawing in this show of a man-boy half walking, half floating on stilts (crutches?). About the small isolated figure hangs a grotesque, yet oddly gentle air, akin to that surrounding some Diane Arbus photographs.

Jane Farmer's small beasts, lying low or preparing to rise, are all gentleness, and done with an appropriately light yet decisive touch. Her forte is precision control of carefully modulated lines and the juxtaposition of light and heavy areas.

Manon Cleary's erotic themes haven't changed. Witness her "Florentine Breast Chest," which is just that, and her "Licensed," in which a Missouri plate covers a human rump. But her handling is less harsh than it was; her colors and edges are so much softer.

Angelo Hodick, the young Brazilian who chooses to make outside, heroic-looking images out of the simple household gadgetry we take for granted, has three giant combs in this exhibit. They are beautifully drawn, soft-lined, magical combs, out of reach because huge and isolated.

Jonathan Meader (also known as Ascian "man who casts no shadow") is that rare creature, the totally professional, yet self-taught artist. He has a sure sense of all aspects of the craft, which he uses to express his own brand of magical whimsy. His objects are animated, not only the comic strips of Supermeader, but his silkscreens of chairs sitting outside of moonscapes, apparently thinking about, commenting on, watching the scene, as in "Chair-full Moon."

Although Dianna Denny's work may symbolize other (or altered) worlds, it doesn't seem to derive directly from them, as does Meader's. Hers are careful illustrations of leaves and



A new view of Washington

Washington: *Portrait of the Capitol* by Mary Mitchell (Barre Publishers, \$14.95. Barre, Mass., 1972)

AS the author makes clear from the outset, *Washington: Portrait of the Capitol* is not a social document — it is an historical one. It succeeds in presenting the familiar in a strikingly different vision, and the hidden as human and non-alien through provocative photo-studies and historical background, with anecdotes sprinkled throughout.

Ms. Mitchell's primary preoccupation is with art and architecture. Buildings and waterways, statues and pillars, are presented with capsule histories, addresses and anecdotes, and insight into the meaning of artistic symbols.

How many people realize, for instance, that a certain statue of Abraham Lincoln shows his hands spelling out his initials in the deaf alphabet; or that statue of Winston Churchill has him standing with one foot on the

soil of the British Embassy, the other on District ground, with his cane on the dividing line — representing his dual citizenship? *Portrait* is a storehouse for the "trivia" fan. In 1885, the Gallaudet college for the deaf's football team was playing Yale, and invented the football huddle to hide their moves which were expressed in sign language. One statue of George Washington (now in the Smithsonian), depicts him as half naked, in the guise of an ancient Roman statesman.

John Wilkes Booth's cohorts plotted in a house in Chinatown that still stands. And the three figures on the eastern part of the roof of the Supreme Court building represent the three great law givers of history — Moses, Confucius, and Solon.

Ms. Mitchell's pictures are provocative and graphic, strikingly eye-catching and warm. The positive and happy side of Washington is the picture she presents. As she explains it, there were already plenty of documents showing slums and the sad face of poverty. — A.M.C.

figures, in which figures often jump into the leaves, Alice in Wonderland fashion, accompanied by giant-sized eyeballs and the like.

These are only a few of the artists who

make this show worth the trip, and a cut above the run of mill Art Barn shows. It occupies the second floor of the Barn; the exhibit on the first is a much lesser accomplishment.



THE drawings and sculpture of Milton Hebard at the Mickelson Gallery through January 3.

PHOTOS

RON STARK at the Corcoran through Jan. 7 (See cover). . . . ROMAN VISHNIAC at the Corcoran through Jan. 7.

NOTES ON THE ARTS

ART SHOWS

PRINTMAKER'S WORKSHOP ARTISTS at the Art Barn through Jan. 2. . . . LOU JONES at the Art League through Jan. 5. . . . CHRISTMAS EXHIBITION OF AFRICAN SCULPTURE at the Museum of African Art through Dec. 30. . . . CHRISTMAS EXHIBITION at Franz Bader's through Dec. 30. . . . SAM GILLIAM at the Jefferson Place through Dec. 30. . . . DON CORRIGAN at Max Protech through Dec. 24. . . . JOSE BERMUDEZ at the Pyramid through Dec. 30. . . . PRINTS and drawings by gallery members at the Studio through Dec. 30. . . . SECOND ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF WASHINGTON ARTISTS at the Phillips Collection through Dec. 30. . . . Group Exhibit at Jacob's Ladder through Jan. 10. . . . THREE DUTCH CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS at the Franz Bader opening Jan. 2.

MUSIC

GIFT certificates selling for \$10 for any 1973 Wolf Trap performance are available at all outlets of Wardtrix (Montgomery Ward), all branches of National Saving and Trust Co. and at Wolf Trap Foundation, suite 1106, 801 19th NW (343-8001). The Wolf Trap season, opening in June, will include Beverly Sills, the Cleveland Symphony and the Boston Pops.

DRAMA

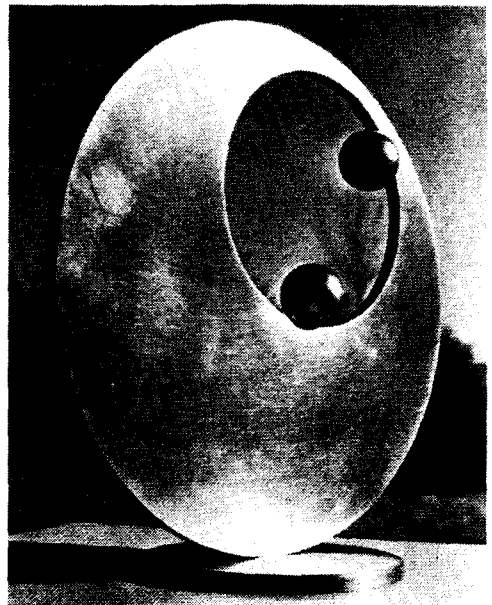
THE BOYS FROM SYRACUSE and HOLIDAY ON STRINGS (by the Bob Brown Marionettes) at the Washington Theatre Club (296-2386). . . . THE COMPLETE WORKS OF STUDES EDELS at the Folger Theatre through Jan. 7 (546-1222). . . . GODSPELL at Ford's. . . . OUR TOWN at the Arena through Jan. 21. (638-6700).

PUPPET THEATRE

THE Smithsonian Puppet Theatre opens its new quarters in the Museum of Arts & Industry on Dec. 20 with a new production of Russian fairy tales, SKAZKI. (381-5395)



PAT AND MIKE (2 p.m.) and ADAM'S RIB (7:30 p.m.) at the American Film Institute on Jan. 7. Tickets can be purchased at the Kennedy Center or by writing the AFI at the Center, DC 20566. Price: \$2.



JOSE BERMUDEZ at the Pyramid through Dec.

FILMS

Play It As It Lays La Salamandre

JOEL SIEGEL

THIS is my sixth attempt at getting something down about *Play It As It Lays*, a movie so inexhaustibly rotten that it could surely survive another dozen or so assaults. Normally, I wouldn't bother writing at length about a film this lousy; unless one is Rex Reed or something equally damp, pettish and nasty, the godlike pleasure of slamming movies in print palls all too quickly. One wants to search out some shard of talent or feeling or honest effort in even the worst of movies, but *Play It As It Lays* defeats the most ardent seeker. The only good thing in the picture is a long helicopter shot of the astonishing Los Angeles Freeway interchange and this, one learns from the final credits, was not done by Director Frank Perry, but was farmed out to an independent film production outfit. Still, I feel I must say something about the movie, and the Joan Didion novel from which it was adapted, just on the chance that somebody reading this column might actually be suckered by their modish nihilism. And, to tell the truth, to keep my conscience straight. The gang responsible for *Play It As It Lays* shouldn't get away without being splatted by at least one of the spitballs which it has so richly earned.

A friend recently remarked that she couldn't wait to finish *Play It As It Lays* so that she

could have the pleasure of destroying her copy. Last summer, I tossed mine off the balcony of my apartment and watched with joy as it plunged 100 feet into a rose bed. (This year, those roses flourished, a testimony to the novel as fertilizer.) I had previously read Joan Didion's earlier collection of essays, *Slouching Towards Bethlehem* and, although I rather enjoyed it, was left with a vague, queasy feeling afterwards. The first part of the book, "Life Styles In The Golden Land" with its tastefully sensational accounts of California grotesquerie was absorbing enough, but the second part, called "Personals," was bothersome. Didion's "sensitive" penseses, with heavy titles like "On Morality" and "The Seacoast of Despair" were bad enough, but a final piece called "Goodbye To All That" was excruciating. In her confessional, which might better be titled "Mini-Madness In Manhattan," Didion talks of her growing neurosis in New York, of how she "could not bear upper Madison Avenue on weekday mornings (this was a particularly inconvenient aversion, since I then lived just fifty or sixty feet east of Madison) because I would see women walking Yorkshire terriers and shopping at Gristede's... One day, I could not go into a Schrafft's; the next day it would be Bonwit Teller... I cried until I was not even aware when I was crying and when I was not, cried in elevators and in taxis and in Chinese laundries..." But enough of this glittering Gotham angst. You get the idea — *The Princess and The Pea* in the Big City. In a world filled with authentic suffering and pain, such modish whimpering may seem faintly disgusting, but it's just the thing, I suppose, to divert melancholy ladies just back from an afternoon at Bloomingdale's. Still, Didion's New York nightmare has a curious but happy ending. She decides to marry writer John Gregory Dunne and moves to Los Angeles where she lives as happily-ever-after as one so sensitive can reasonably hope to be.

The product of these placid L.A. years was her novel *Play It As It Lays*, as chic and trashy a bit of sequined despair as any Georgetown matron could desire. The heroine, Maria Wyeth (pronounced Mar-eye-ia, as in theycallthe wind...) is a pure soul caught up in the empty hell of Tinseltown, a yawning pit of soulless pleasure. Her spirit-draining life as a model, actress, wife of a movie director, mother of a symbolically retarded child, victim of a symbolic abortion, pill-popper, easy lay, driver of freeways etc. leads her to a Marienbadish madhouse from which she narrates the book. Despite the spiritual void of her existence (she has only a few rules which she won't compromise, among them "Never carry a Yorkshire in Beverly Hills," terriers evidently being a Didiotic motif), she struggles on (refusing to give in like her friend BZ who commits suicide in her arms) determined to get out of the nuthouse and find a little cottage to share with her retarded daughter where they can put up preserves and chutney together and Keep On Bearing It In Spite of Everything. To cite the novel's (and film's) memorably uproarious closing lines: "I know what nothing means, and keep on playing. Why, BZ would say Why not, I say."

To paraphrase an old rhyme: "Who knows where such rubbish is bred? In the bowels or in the head?" How did this book get praised virtually everywhere when it appeared two years ago? How could Didion possibly have been named a judge of the National Book Awards and allowed to slam her infinite betters, like Doris Lessing, in the New York Times? After all of these years and the efforts of so many writers and teachers and readers, isn't the American novel ever coming out from under the dryer?

The only hope of salvaging a book this pretentious and silly is to make a lush, lurid movie out of it and go the whole route — big, florid performances, steam-heated sex-scenes, gobs of glitzy glamor. However Didion, and her

husband, who collaborated with her on the screenplay, and her brother-in-law, Producer Dominick Dunne, followed their taste for Higher Things and picked Frank Perry to direct, probably the worst American moviemaker still operative. (His films include *The Swimmer*, *Doc* and *Diary Of A Mad Housewife*. Need I say more?). Always angling for the fast, cheap effect, Perry's movies are devoid of depth or energy: they are "now" movies in the worst sense, as dispensible as Kleenex. The combination of Perry and Didion is truly stupefying.

I can't think of a more barren or poisonous movie experience than *Play It As It Lays*. In it, Perry has emphasized all of the weaknesses of Didion's novel, replacing the vaguely pleasing tautness of her affected prose with clunky editing and dreadful secondary performances. Keeping with current fashion, the movie is fragmented beyond reasonable perception, even though nothing in the material indicates any formal need for such temporal and physical shredding of scenes (as, say, is essential in difficult movies like *Je T'Aime*, *Je T'Aime* and *The Pumpkin Eater*). Everyone and everything is catatonic and rotting: whatever perversion has infected Maria's world, the plague has struck

long before the movie begins. (But the movie is in no way serious about investigating death-in-life as Hitchcock is in *Vertigo*, or decadence, as *Losey* is in *Eva*.) Superb actors like Tuesday Weld and Tony Perkins, the brilliant team of *Pretty Poison*, are devastated by the lawnmower cutting and their only uninterrupted sequence, the suicide scene, is shot so slackly and written so dully that the poor actors have nothing to do but stare listlessly at the turning camera.

Perry is so stone stupid that he can't figure out any way of bringing Didion's book to life. The best he can come up with is a series of unconvincing snapshots of Southern California death and decay. One example of his incompetence should suffice. When Maria has her abortion, we are, of course, shown a quick shot of gloved hands dropping something bloody into a surgical receptacle. Shortly thereafter, Miss Weld stumbles upon a kitchen garbage can, and the shot is held long enough so that even the cockroaches in the theatre know what she's remembering. But then, just so we get the point, Perry gives us an instant replay of those gloved hands tossing out their bloody burden. How stupid can a man be to think that we are so stupid? Has there

ever in the history of movies been such pig-headed redundancy?

I could go on but what would be the use? *Play It As It Lays* is an idiotic, life-denying, crudely nihilistic bummer and I'll feel personally rewarded if my outpouring has spared anybody the pain of suffering it.

One fast and unkind word about Alain Tanner's *La Salamandre*, which I have been avoiding writing about for two months or so. Although hardly an abomination of Didion-Perry magnitude, I think it one of the worst films of the year and couldn't possibly recommend it to anyone. *La Salamandre* is a particularly pretentious, interminable "art movie" which neither moves nor contains anything conspicuously artful. All of the requisite bits of leftist politics and art-vs-life are there, along with obligatory imitations of Truffaut and Godard. Bulle Ogier gives an impressive performance in the title role, contributing a particularly memorable, chilling moment when, after a rock record has been turned off, her head and body continue to shake violently to the vanished rhythms. But that's the only memorable moment in the movie: the rest is smug, tiresome and faintly objectionable.

ROCK Nitty Gritty Dirt Band

GREG SHAW

THE Nitty Gritty Dirt Band is one of those groups that's been around the fringes for year without ever building up a strong image. They were one of the countless country-folkrock bands around L.A. in 1966, and though they included Jackson Browne at the time, put out a basically fine album, and even had a fair sized hit single called "Buy For Me the Rain," nothing happened.

They've had three albums since then and built up a following of sorts, but never really broken through. Until now. Their new album, a 3-record set called *Will The Circle Be Unbroken* (UA 9801) is, as usual, unlike anything they've done before. It's also a smash hit, having sold 25,000 in the first month of release, which is like 75,000 for a single album.

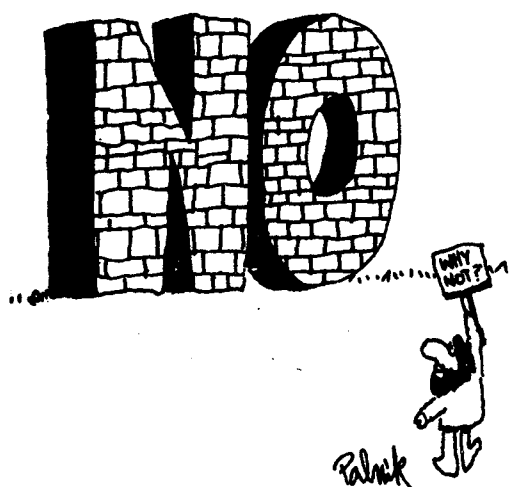
It's a concept album, and one that fulfills their lifelong ambition to play real country music. What they did is round up all the legendary Nashville country stars who would consent to being involved. take them into the studio, and have them recut their classic records with the Dirt Band playing along, and the whole thing done on acoustic instruments to help create the atmosphere of a friendly backporch jam.

Among the living legends who agreed to appear on the album were Earl Scruggs, Roy Acuff, Mother Maybelle Carter, Doc Watson, Merle Travis, and Jimmy Martin. They were joined by dobro player Norman Blake, who has worked in the Nashville studio bands of Bob Dylan and Johnny Cash, and Beecher (Bashful Brother Oswald) Kirby, one of the most famous members of Acuff's Smokey Mountain Boys, as well as a sensational young fiddle player named Vassar Clements, who does astounding things with the old standard, "Orange Blossom Special."

Despite initial fears, there was no friction between these bastions of Southern conservatism and the long-haired Dirt Band, once the basic affinity of their approach to music became clear. The songs on the album, like "You Are My Flower," "I Saw the Light," "Wabash Cannonball," "Honky Tonk Blues," and "Wildwood Flower" and the title number, are all well-known country-traditional standards.

While perhaps not as important to musicologists as the old Carter Family 78s some of these songs once appeared on, this set has already achieved historic importance for bringing together these legendary figures, many of whom had never met or played together before. The Nashville Tennessean's prestigious music section hailed the album as "one of the most important recordings in the 45 years of the Nashville music business."

Pretty strong language, but justified, I think. What the album does is solidify the bridge between country music and the young (or "rock") audience, that bands like Commander Cody and A-sleep at the Wheel have already begun building. Which, like any new source of vitality, can only strengthen and improve the music. Whether or not the fusion goes any further, this is an important album by any standard and absolutely essential to any fan of traditional country music.



MEDIA Late night revival

EGBERT SOUSE

Announcer: From New York, it's the Dickie David Show!

Audience: clap clap clap clap

Announcer: Dickie's special guest tonight is Jesus Christ. And now, Heeeers Dickie!

Band: Bum buh dum dum do dahhhh!

Audience: Yayy.

Dickie: Thank you, thank you. What a wonderful audience. You know, it was so cold in New York today that the prostitutes were wearing Supp-hose.

Audience: ha ha ha ha ha

Dickie: I was back stage talking to our special guest - he's really an interesting guy. What can I say? We've never met before. Actually, he's a very easy going fellow and he's got a great sense of humor. When some of the stage hands tried to get him to turn the water cooler into a keg of wine, he said no, he wasn't doing that old trick any more.

Audience: ha ha ha

Dickie: So we'll be right back after this message.

Band: Hallelujah chorus fades into

Commercial: Wet, wet, wet. Are your underarms wet? (Etc.)

Dickie: My first guest tonight has been called "the son of God" and "the prince of peace." His name has become a household word all over the world, not just here in America, and I'm going to bring him out here right now. Heeeers Jesus!

Band: Jesus Loves Me This I Know.

Audience: Yyyyyyy! Hosannah in the highest!

Dickie: Well, it's nice to see You.

Jesus: Thanks, Dick. It's nice to be seen.

Audience: ha ha ha ha

Dickie: You know, a lot of people have mistaken me for You.

Jesus: Well, Dick, alot of people have mistaken alot of people for Me.

Dickie: Gee, there are so many questions I could

ask You. I guess what everyone would want to know is, how does it feel to be raised from the dead?

Jesus: Well, Dick, alot better than it feels to die!

Audience: ha ha ha ha ha

Dickie: I thought You'd say that. But seriously, what brings You to New York? I mean, why have You come back after all these years, and so near to Christmas?

Jesus: Well of course the official reason is to judge the quick and the dead.

Dickie: You mean judgment day, that kind of thing?

Jesus: Well, Dick, the old judgment 'day' concept is a little outdated. We've done some research on that and found it impractical. So many people to process - I mean, that's just the quick, not to mention the dead. So We've worked out a more practical approach. We've decided against the angels and the heavens opening up and all that. Keeping a low profile on this thing and We'll just sort of work it out, as We go along.

Dickie: Yes but there must be a reason You decided to come back now.

Jesus: Well you know what it says in the Bible about the so-called end of the world, right?

Dickie: I thought you'd mention the Bible.

Audience: Awwwww.

Jesus: Of course, Dick. You know Me. Anyway, We've decided that things can't get much worse on this planet and well, We think now is about the time to start wrapping things up.

Dickie: You mean, it's all over?

Jesus: Well We'll see about that. I mean I'm going to look the situation over and make a few recommendations, that's all. It could be that with a few changes, things can go right on again almost as they were. I think the massage parlors will have to go, and I may have to finish off George Wallace for good this time, but...

Dickie: I'm glad you mentioned him. Could You give us Your opinions on some our other world leaders?

Jesus: Well Dickie, I think I can tell you a few who haven't made the grade and will probably not make it to heaven. These would include (bleep), and of course (bleep-bleep) as well as (bleep), (bleep-bleep) and (bleep-bleep-bleep).

Dickie: God, I hope the network lets us use those names on the air.

Jesus: Were you speaking to Me?

Audience: Ohhhh, ha ha

Jesus: While I'm here, Dick, I'd like to say a word on behalf of church.

Dickie: Sure, go ahead.

Jesus: Go ye therefore-

Dickie: Ah yes, a great quote, a great quote.

Could you do some of the others for us?

Jesus: Well sure. How about this one: If thy

right eye offend thee, pluck it out, for -

Dickie: Haven't You got anything a little more Christmassy?

Jesus: Sure. How about this one: Unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have a-bundance; but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath.

Dickie: Huh? Oh, yes, great line. How about that one about the rich man and the eye of the needle?

Jesus: I was misquoted on that one, Dick.

Dickie: I'm afraid we're just about out of time. Where do You go from here?

Jesus: Well we're starting a major crusade right across the country. I'll be in Madison Square Garden tomorrow night and the rest of the week

(Please turn to page 15)

DRAMA Coda

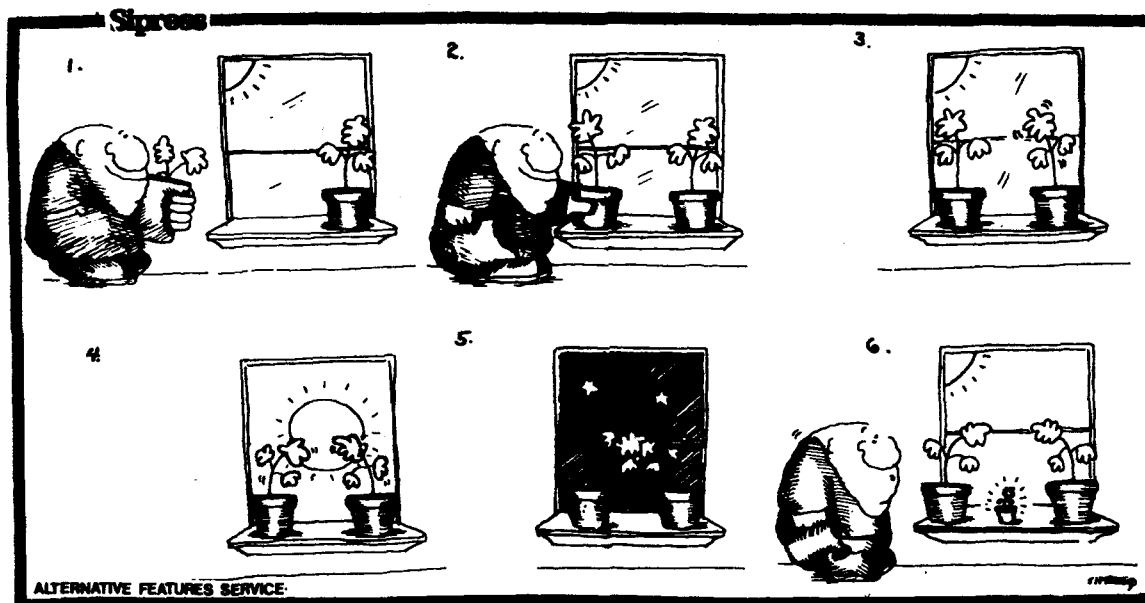
SALLY CROWELL

THE D.C. Black Repertory Company opened its professional season to a full house of well-wishers and the commotion of T.V. cameras. The actors were nervous and the audience somewhat annoyed at the delay, but 'Coda' went on, and it was a courageous beginning for Washington's only professional black acting company.

While there are now five theaters in the D.C. area that offer plays geared toward black audiences, only the D.C. Black Rep claims to be professional; hence offering the best possible theater to its audience. If the D.C. Black Rep is to claim professionalism over the other area college-based and semi-professional groups, more care will have to be used in the casting of plays to insure believability of characterization and unity in performance. Playwright Evans Walker has supplied the company with a tense and compelling realistic 'slice of life' drama that is rich in pathos as well as comic relief. This should be an actors' dream. But rather than fulfill the potential of the play, the actors too often failed to capture the moment.

Part of the problem lies in the believability of the character roles: Momma Sally, Josh Duncan and Sara Kincaid. There is an obvious lack of maturity in these older characters, and while this is excusable in non-professional theater, it is not acceptable in professional. The public should have the right to experience depth and insight into these characters. The younger roles played by LeTari, Kene Holliday, Ed DeShae and Smokey were much truer. LeTari's moments of self-recognition, Holliday's memory recalls, DeShae's sincerity, and Smokey's street mannerisms began to reflect what the playwright was seeking in this penetrating drama.

However, while the first two acts of Walker's play contains the expositions and climaxes and masterfully mixes notes of comedy with the tragic, the third act shortchanges its actors as well as its audience. It is difficult to



end a play on a note of indecision, and the tension that underlies such a choice must be felt. Even though the play ended, we were never made to feel the full impact of a highly volatile question: Will Lonnie kills his father in the name of liberation to avenge his friend's death? Perhaps with some reworking the last act will be developed as completely as the first two.

As a quote on the program by Stokely Carmichael states: "Culture is from the people, and it must be given back to the people. Once culture ceases to be for the people, it becomes commercial — and anyone can buy it." Commercial or not, whatever the D.C. Black Repertory Company is selling, the people are buying, and it is the only way a theatre can survive. This thought provoking drama about personal as well as group survival continues through Dec. 31st.

GRANDMA KLING'S RECIPES



MARY Jane Kaniuka has loved to cook since she made a trade with her mother when she was eight. She'd cook the meals and her mother would wash the dishes. Since those early days when she practiced her reading by following cookbook directions, Mary Jane has parlayed her love of food into a career as a home economist and currently teaches three cooking classes at the downtown YWCA (Cooking, Cooking for Entertaining, and Bread Baking Workshop) and is the consumer consultant for Safeway. Prior to joining Safeway, she was a home economics instructor in the DC highschools and was affiliated with "Project Money-wise," a consumer education program sponsored by the Bureau of Federal Credit Unions.

Her recipe, Elegant Chicken, is the main dish for a buffet dinner. "The beauty of the dish," she says, "is that it is easy to prepare, but looks complicated." The dinner would begin with onion soup. The chicken would be served with broccoli with cheese sauce, molded cranberry salad and dinner rolls. Desert would be pot de creme au chocolate. She recommends Wentz Brothers Livermore Chablis to serve with the dinner.

ONION SOUP GRATINEE

2 large onions	4 cups beef broth
4 Tablespoons butter	2 cups water
1 clove garlic, minced	1/2 tsp. thyme
salt and pepper to taste	1/4 bay leaf
1 Tbsp. flour	thin-sliced sour dough, French or Italian bread

Sliced sharp Cheddar cheese, Gruyere, or Swiss

PEEL onion and slice wafer thin. Heat butter in large sauce pan. Add onion, garlic, salt and pepper. Cook stirring until onions are golden brown. Sprinkle with flour, cook 3 or 4 minutes more. Add broth, water, thyme, bay leaf and bring to boil. Simmer 1/2 hour or more.

Preheat oven to 500 degrees. Place bread on baking sheet and bake, turning slices once so they brown evenly and well.

Turn soup into 1 1/2 quart heatproof casserole. Float toast on top. Place cheese on toast. Bake until soup is steaming hot and cheese melted and golden. Yield: 6 or more servings.

ELEGANT CHICKEN

TO BONE: Buy one chicken breast split in two for each two people to be served. (This is how they are usually packaged and sold.) Place the halved chicken breast on a flat surface and, using the fingers, pull the skin off the chicken. It has a tenuous attachment to the flesh and comes off with a minimum of effort. Using a paring knife, make a small incision between the meat and the breastbone at a point away from the main wing portion. Using the fingers and the knife, carefully pull and scrape the meat away from the bones, taking care not to tear the meat.

Prepare "Uncle Ben's Seasoned Long Grain & Wild Rice" according to the directions on the package. Place about 1 Tablespoon rice mixture in the center of each chicken breast and roll up, tucking in ends. Put the remaining rice mixture into the bottom of a well-buttered casserole. Place the rolled-up chicken breasts on the rice so they are touching one another. Bake 20 to 45 minutes in a 425 degree oven, basting frequently, at least every 10 or 15 minutes. Baste with a mixture of equal parts of melted butter and sherry. Serve directly from the baking dish.

MEDIA CONT'D

and then We'll do a few nights in the Catskills for our Jewish friends.

Dickie: Oh yeah, I was going to ask you about them.

Jesus: Listen — forgive and forget, right? Anybody can make a mistake.

Dickie: Well alot of people are breathing easier now.

Audience: Whew!

Jesus: We've cut an album of very today hymns and that'll be out in the next few months and We're planning some new chapters for the Bible by some of the top writers of today. So that after James, Peter and Revelations will come Mailer, Capote, and Oates. This could be very exciting.

Dickie: I'll say. Well, thanks for being with us and good luck.

Jesus: Thank you Dick. Go, and sin no more.

Audience: YYYYYYYY!

Dickie: A great guy and a fine human being. Tomorrow night's guests will be Lili St. Cyr and Linus Pauling. Good night!

Announcer: Views expressed on the Dickie David Show are not necessarily those of the network or sponsors. This program was recorded earlier this evening.

FADE TO BLACK.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

FEDERAL AFTER-HOURS EDUCATION PROGRAM

Registration for more than 100 college-level courses to be held in 23 downtown federal buildings in DC will be held Jan 9 and Jan 10 in Conference Rooms A, B and D of the Department of Commerce building, 14th and Constitution Ave. NW from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Classes begin Jan 22. Tuition is \$60.00 per semester hour and all courses are 3 semester hours. Info: Robert W. Stewart, Jr., 676-7018.

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY LECTURE SERIES

The Audubon Naturalist Society and the DC Junior League will co-sponsor an Environmental Study Lecture Series for twelve weeks starting Feb. 6 at Woodend, 8940 Jones Mill Road, Chevy Chase, Md. Info: 652-9189.

CUT YOUR OWN TREE

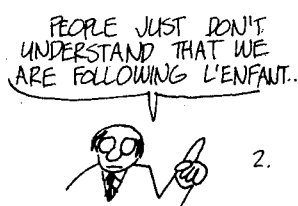
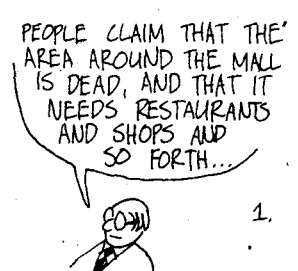
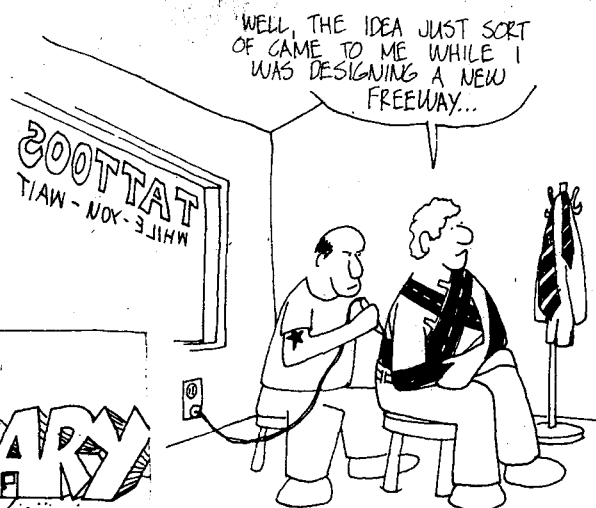
The Lutheran Social Services will benefit from Christmas trees you cut yourself for \$4 at Hope Hill Farm, Hagerstown, Md. The directions are: drive north on 70S to Hagerstown. Go south on Route 81 to Route 9 West. Go west through Hedgesville to Route 7 to Tomahawk. Travel left about 4.7 miles to a right turn. Follow green arrows to Hope Hill Farm. Tree cutting ends Dec. 23rd.

RECOMMENDED BY MAO

THE Noname Press, has as their first offering, *The Chinese Unicorn* (and other conceits from a Chinese diction). The book is a reprint of an old Chinese-English dictionary, found in the Paris fleamarket. The book is available in most local bookshops or from Noname Press, 5200 Kingle Street, NW, DC 20016. Price: \$3.00 with 50¢ for postage.

THE COMPUTER AND YOU

The American Association for the Advancement of Science is holding an "information exchange" to let the average person in on the latest technical and scientific advances in computers and to show how computers already help more than forty DC-area agencies and organizations solve problems of the area.



Such diverse groups as All Soul's Church, Anacostia Community Development Consortium, Citizens Transportation Coalition, Co-Opt, Ma Bell, RLA, ECTC, League of Women Voters, National Capital Area Day Care Association, the National Capital Planning Commission, Preterm, the Sierra Club and federal agencies will present exhibits. The exposition will open at 1 p.m. Dec 26 and run through Dec. 29 at the Washington Hilton Hotel.

MUSEUM OF AFRICAN ART CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS

The Museum of African Art, 316-318 A St. NE will feature a series of African story hours at 11 a.m., Dec. 26 through 29 for elementary children. At 2 p.m. there will be special lectures on African art followed by a guided tour of the exhibitions for college students. Info: 547-7424.

GIFTS FOR THE OUTDOOR NUT

The Potomac Area Council, American Youth Hostels, Inc. has a number of items at their

headquarters at 1501 16th St. NW which would make excellent Christmas presents for hikers and bikers. Among them are an 18 inch elastic strap with hooks at the ends for \$.60, or a twill cloth zipper money belt with small and large pockets for \$1.45. Also available is their collection of C&P Canal maps which includes 21 detailed maps from Georgetown to Cumberland for \$1.75. Info: 462-5780.

A TRASHY PRESENT

Herbert Tucker, Acting Director of the District's Solid Waste Management Administration has given District residents a present in the form of improved trash collection. No longer will you have to spend hours on the phone arranging for a special pickup of bulk items. Instead bulk trash should be placed at regular points of collection for pickup by 7 a.m. on Wednesdays. Anyone who still finds his unwanted mattress still there on Thursday should call the Department of Environmental Services Alert Center at 629-3825. Unfortunately, for white bulk items such as stoves you still have to call 629-2528. (Please turn to page 19)

CLASSIFIEDS

JOBS

PUBLIC INTEREST LAW FIRM near Dupont Circle looking for legal sec. w/typing & shorthand. \$8500 w/good benefits. Tina Podolak, 387-3210.

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION of Near NE is interviewing for exec. dir. Contact Ernest McKee, 397-4200 for details. Closing date, Jan. 1.

ARTS & CRAFTS

PHOTO classes for beginners will start Jan. 7 at Photo Project, 1804 Wisc. Ave. NW. 8-week course meets Sun. afternoon. Students will have own darkroom. Call 965-0500 2-11 p.m. weekdays or 9-5 Sats.

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HOUSING

WANTED: Roommate to share w/2 others 3-bdrm apt. Dupont Circle area. \$55/month. 387-6345.

RESPONSIBLE tenant wants to sublet one or 2 bdrm apt (furnished) for up to 1 year in near-in Capitol Hill. Can pay \$150 inc. util. Linda Mooskin, 965-4784.

FOR SALE

"MARIJUANA - NATURE'S WAY OF SAYING HI!" Bumperstickers, 50¢. Two foot tall plastic marijuana plant, \$2.25. From: S-T Mail Order, Box 1885, A2, Michigan 48106.

SDSiana. Over 17 lbs. SDS pamphlets, broadsides, periodicals. 1960-69. Will sell whole lot. Don Rice, 1109 W. Vine, Mt. Vernon, OH 43050.

RATES: Commercial: 10¢ a word
Non-commercial: Free

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ELECTRONIC STENCILS: The Gazette makes electronic mimeograph stencils. \$3.25 each for commercial firms, \$2.50 each for non-profit groups.

MISC

LOOKING for 2 1/2-4 1/2 year olds for pre-school opening in Georgetown area Feb. 1. Sue Botts, 337-0154.

WANT TO SPREAD IDEA OF PEACE ON EARTH? Join Vigil for Peace on White House sidewalk. White House Daily Meeting, 120 Md. Ave. NE, DC 20002. 234-7711.

The Littonization of America

ROY Ash, the \$195,000 a year head of Litton Industries, has been named director of the Office of Management and Budget. The following article throws some light on Ash and Litton:

"IN 1953, when a group headed by Charles 'Tex' Thornton bought Litton, then a small electronics firm, for \$1.5 million, the company showed \$3 million in sales. This year," writes David Horowitz and Reese Erlich in a November 1968 Ramparts Article titled "Big Brother as a Holding Company," "its worth has grown to a fantastic \$1.8 billion level.

"Fortune, the Social Register of the business establishment, describes Litton as 'the very symbol of all that is modern in U.S. management,' and calls its guiding captains 'as brilliant a group as can be found at the head of any corporation in the world.'"

Litton Industries has 100 different divisions and produces such things as S&H Green Stamps, Stouffer foods, and Royal typewriters. Buying, not selling, was the formula for Litton's success. "We had to grow fast," explained chairman of the board, Thornton. "We bought time, a market, a product line, plant, research teams, sales force. It would have taken years to duplicate this from scratch."

And with each new purchase, the Litton conglomerate increased its power and area of influence in the business world.

Litton's most lucrative business deals have come from the government in the form of defense work. In 1971 it ranked eleventh on the list of the top 100 defense contractors with a total of \$516 million in government contracts, supplying the military with missile guidance systems, helicopter landing assault ships, nuclear attack submarines and many other types of defense hardware.

Relations between Litton and the Defense Department have always been tight. Among Litton's vice-presidents are Joseph Imirie, a former under-secretary of the Air Force, and John H. Rubel, a former assistant secretary of Defense under Robert McNamara. McNamara himself worked closely with Litton's chairman, Thornton, when they were both at Ford Motor Company.

Roy Ash and Tex Thornton have been together for a long time. In the late forties, after a stint with Ford as a high-class consultant, Thornton moved on to do the same kind of work at Hughes Aircraft (owned by Howard Hughes). Ash, who had been one of Thornton's subordinates during the war, was hired — with no accountancy training — to be assistant comptroller, giving up his job as a Bank of America statistician.

During their reign at Hughes, the company's profits skyrocketed, particularly off of contracts with the newly created Air Force. In 1948 Hughes did a total of \$2 million in sales to the Air Force but by 1953, when Ash and Thornton left, the figure was \$200 million.

The two business partners did not leave Hughes under the most favorable circumstances, however. They had trouble keeping track of costs under a particular defense contract so they began to falsify affidavits they were supposed to submit regularly to the government.

Eventually the Air Force found out about the forgeries and pressured Hughes into dealing with his over-eager consultants. Hughes responded by locking Ash and Thornton out of their offices on September 1, 1953, and by February of 1954, had paid back some \$43 million to the Air Force which had been "misappropriated."

It was right after the Hughes boondoggle that Thornton and Ash bought Litton.

The Job Corps

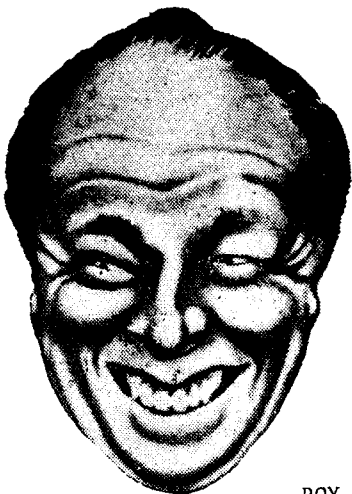
"The input — the raw material — that is fed into this machine is people. The output is people. It is the function of this machine to transform these people." The machine is Litton Industries; the words are from Litton vice-president John Rubel. And with that philosophy of education, Rubel managed to snap up one of the first Job Corps contracts in 1964: the Parks Job Corps Center in Pleasanton, California.

Rubel had convinced OEO head Sargent Shriver to contract out Job Corps projects to private enterprise rather than getting educators to do the job. Rubel assured the OEO that Litton could get better results, quicker and for less. The Pleasanton center was Litton's piece of the pie and the entire operation from beginning to end was designed to make it for Litton's Educational Systems Division which included the job corps program, management of Oakland Community College in Michigan and two textbook companies. It was the first attempt

to cash in on the burgeoning social welfare industry.

The company's recruiters painted a beautiful picture of training for a good paying job, the equivalent of a high school diploma, spending money, and intimations of pools, girls and private rooms with TVs. But the real Parks Center was another story.

Located on an unused Navy base, the center was surrounded by a barbed wire fence with checkpoints manned by Litton guards. The 2000 corpsmen slept in open bay Army barracks, wore green uniforms, marched to their meals at the mess hall, and were hauled off to the brig when they misbehaved.



ROY ASH

Education, supposedly the reason they were there in the first place, was a joke. Faced with bringing their student's reading and arithmetic skills up to a level appropriate to the specific jobs they were being trained for, Litton developed a new learning technique. A pre-test, given the students before they began the course, was the same as the final test given after the course was over, and all exercises in between were also based on the same test.

Memorizing doesn't help anyone to learn to read, but it does make for some pretty impressive program-success statistics. Litton also bought expensive supplies that it never used. For instance a General Accounting Office investigation made just before the center was closed down, showed that \$337,000 worth of American Book Publishing Co. textbooks on such topics as the theory of relativity, the stock market, and the slide rule (all for students who could barely read) lined the supply closet shelves. American Book Publishing is, incidentally, one of Litton's two textbook producing subsidiaries.

Forty percent of the graduating corpsmen went into the military — either drafted or convinced to enlist by Litton's advisors. Only 8% of the enrollees in the first two years of the project were placed in jobs related to their training.

After two years of operation, the estimated cost of the Center jumped from a projected \$12.8 million to \$25.5 million and by the terms of the "cost-plus" contract, the government had to foot the bill. Finally, after many complaints, the government closed the Parks Center in May 1969. Litton made a little money off the deal, but more importantly, backed by its slew of "success" statistics, it made a name for itself in the business of education, which it could use to get future business.

Greece

Litton by no means limits its business operations to the U.S. A sudden "coup d'etat" in Greece in April 1967, carried out by junior officers to block a predicted liberal electoral victory, went so far to the right that it toppled the conservative constitutional monarchy.

The jails swelled with political prisoners and Europe shook at the first sign of a fascist government in power since World War II. Even Washington, whose military and intelligence agencies had been closely linked to the coup, held back immediate diplomatic support. For the first three weeks after the overthrow, it was unclear whether Greece's new military leadership could maintain its hold on the country in the face of adverse and worldwide reactions.

But just then, Litton Industries made a gesture of support. Litton contracted to direct a "development program" for Greece. They promised to procure \$840 million in capital

for the country in 12 years. It was typically lucrative for Litton.

"The return on investment here," said Robert Allan, head of Litton's Greek project, "is very large because we don't have any basic investment. Our real investment is our good name..."

Litton began by convincing other American investors that the new military rule in Greece was just the thing for their line of work. Barney Oldfield, Litton International's chief public officer, took over responsibility for that job. Oldfield was an Air Force colonel before going to Litton and got his PR training as chief public information officer for NATO in Europe.

Besides encouraging private investment in Greece, Litton pulled all the strings it could in Washington to get the Greek military regime openly accepted. This included convincing influential politicians to meet with the military leaders despite the State Department's official disapproval, and getting the World Bank, whose new head was Robert McNamara, to approve a \$12.5 million loan to the junta.

The pay-off came on May 17, 1968. Indicating a definite U.S. softening toward the regime, Secretary of Defense Clark Clifford went before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to ask support for an administrative proposal for \$661 million in military aid to the dictatorships of South Korea, Turkey, Iran, Taiwan and Greece.

Robert Allan described himself to Ramparts researchers as working "for the Greek people." When they asked him what he thought of the authenticated descriptions of the torture of political prisoners appearing in the establishment press, Allan replied:

"The whole nation was just going into chaos, and this was their way of answering it...there was no more torture or beatings than they would have in a normal police station anywhere in the world...which, God knows, none of us like, but do go on."

The junta "provided the atmosphere in which things can get done," explained Allan.

"The very structure and strategy of Litton as a business enterprise," write Horowitz and Erlich, "gravitates toward the military and the state, and toward authoritarian regimes."

Litton and the Navy

In the same breath in which newspapers announced Ash as the new director of the Office of Management and Budget, many newspapers mentioned that Litton Industries is currently involved in big financial hassles with the Navy. The problem — a contested \$270 million that Litton says the Navy owes them for cost overruns for five amphibious assault ships that Litton contracted to build in May 1969.

Sen. William Proxmire (D.-Wisc.) complained that under Ash, Litton had been involved in "two of the most highly inefficient and mismanaged military procurement operations."

On September 1 the Navy turned down the company's request for the \$270 million but at the same time agreed to continue paying Litton in full for another six months until the two parties talk it over some more.

After the Navy's decision was announced, Rep. Les Aspin (D.-Wisc.) accused the Navy of making an "unjustified major concession to Litton" and he called for either Ash or Clark MacGregor, Nixon's campaign manager, to "disclose how much money Litton employees have given to the President's campaign. (Much later, in an interview after he was appointed to OMB, Ash said that his contributions to the Nixon campaign were "in five figures.")

Proxmire laid it on the line. "Litton has given the Navy grounds for declaring the LHA (Landing Helicopter Assault) contract in default, and continued failure to take corrective action on the Navy's part could increase the cost to the taxpayer by hundreds of millions of dollars."

Roy Ash fits perfectly into Nixon's plans to circumvent Congressional authority in order to exert more control over domestic policy.

Whatever social services he allows to continue will probably be thrown even more often to private enterprise, (a la the job corps morsel). Defense contracting — that huge drain on the taxpayer — will continue to flourish, and Ash's management skills will be put to creating the "atmosphere where things can get done," here in the states. The Littonization of America is underway. — LNS

BEGIN with the fact that 20 per cent of the world's population controls 80 per cent of the world's wealth. Add the frustrating realization that traditional relief agencies represent a paternalistic, band-aid approach. And you wind up with New World Coalition, a new attempt at redistributing the wealth.

New World Coalition (NWC) has two major projects: A self-tax program aimed primarily at this nation's student population and alternative mail-order service which stresses the people behind the products.

Three of the coalition's founders are refugees from traditional relief agencies. Richard Steckel and Terry Rode used to be with the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee; Jerry Pyle was a regional staffer for the Freedom from Hunger Foundation.

The trouble with most of the humanitarian charitable organizations, for example, CARE, claims Richard, is that they don't show or deal with the relationship of the poor's need and the cause of the poor's oppression. They've adopted an apolitical "people to people" approach.

And their programs, adds Terry, are people-to-people except for "people in a politically hot country. The people-to-people thing," says Terry, "is a way of avoiding dealing with the real issues."

"The relief agencies are relying on a constituency that they assume...doesn't want to deal with the issues," Jerry adds. "A constituency that wants to see the rest of the world as starving babies and 'Maybe we should adopt one.'"

It's a vicious circle, he charges. "The agencies communicate an image of starving helpless savages and the constituency gets used to that, and that makes it more impossible for the agencies to change their analysis of what's going on in the world."

NWC, which has its offices at 419 Boylston Street, Boston, hopes that not everybody's into that bag. As an alternative, the coalition advocates programs such as the self-tax idea, which has been a notable success in England, where an estimated 10 per cent of that country's total university population is pledging one to two percent of its income toward self-help aid projects.

Beginning this fall, the NWC self-tax movement has sought annual pledges of \$12 and more. Thirty-five per cent of the money will go to one of three international programs, 35 per cent to one of three U.S. programs, 15 per cent for educational materials, and 15 per cent for NWC administrative expenses. (Traditional relief agencies have administrative costs as high as 70 per cent of their budgets, the coalition claims.)

The international programs, stresses NWC, were picked largely because they are in politically controversial, socialist-oriented countries. Included are an agrarian reform project in Chile, rural training centers in Tanzania, and a nutrition-fishery project in Zambia. All of the U.S. programs — legal aid in Pennsylvania, tenant aid in Boston, and a Chicano center in Houston — had to meet the coalition's standards for being controlled by the community.

"Charity" is not the guiding principle in the self-tax idea, the New World people stress. "Nobody's asking for charity," explained Richard. "When you have your needs met and other people don't, then giving is a matter of simple justice."

Another NWC project is a sort of "social marketing." Its chief product is the "Shop The Other America" (STOA) catalogue, which costs 25 cents (26,000 have been sold to date) and lists products made by community development corporations (CDC's) all around the country. Items listed include blue jeans, pecan rings, back packs, toys, tapestries, natural shampoos, art objects and many others. The coalition acts as a mail-order clearing house for the products.

The catalogue is for consumers with a conscience, asserts Charles Hampden-Turner, the coalition's theoretician. "Would you rather," he asks, "have the profits from your purchases buy a third swimming pool for a fat cat in Scarsdale? Or support a drug rehabilitation center somewhere?"

To emphasize that point, the products are not listed by categories, but by communities. The STOA catalogue gives a picture of the people behind the products, bringing the consumer and producer closer together. It's an attempt to humanize the marketplace in much the same way that NWC's self-tax drive attempts to humanize the process of sharing with other countries.

— AFS

ACTION NOTES

THE Attica Fund which coordinates all the defense work for the men who are expected to be indicted for the rebellion last year is in desperate need of funds.

A number of former Attica inmates are available to speak to groups and the Fund has buttons, pamphlets, tapes. They are also distributing a petition to demand that all criminal proceedings against Attica prisoners be stopped.

Info: Attica Fund, PO Box 2515, Grand Central Station, New York, N.Y., 10017 or call 212-741-2640.

THE U.S. Committee to Aid the NLF has put out a fact sheet on Cambodia. Like their Vietnam fact sheet, it briefly describes and dates important events in Cambodian history. The Cambodian fact sheet begins in 1863 — the beginning of French colonization there — and continues to the present.

Copies are available by writing: USCANLF, Box "C," Old Chelsea Station, New York, N.Y. 10011.

THE Network Project, a group doing research in the area of domestic and international telecommunications is making available a series of pamphlets on the structure and operation of American telecommunications conglomerates. Individuals can obtain the series of six bimonthly pamphlets for \$10. Single copies are \$2 for individuals; \$5 for institutions. There is an increasing public concern over the complete lack of regulation of a satellite system that is owned and operated by the nation's largest communications, aerospace and electronics firms.

Info: Network Project, 102 Earl Hall, Columbia University, NYC NY 10027.

THE Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference of Radical Historians will be held at Fordham University, Bronx, NY on Jan. 27-28. Discussions will

center on radical teaching techniques, social and political research and the relationship of history to various aspects of politics. The conference will be organized around workshops. There will be no presentation of formal papers, although people are encouraged to talk about their work in detail. Info: Mark Naison, 317 W. 99th St. (4B), NYC NY 10025. (212-663-7795).

THE Union for Radical Political Economics is an organization composed mainly of economics professors and students. It publishes a journal and newsletter and meets annually for a week. Info: Union for Radical Political Economics, c/o Ruth Indeck, 521 W. 122 St. #4, NYC NY 10027 (212-850-6144).

THE cost of feeding people and getting the Trail of Broken Treaties Caravans to Washington have exhausted the funds of the Survival of American Indians Assoc. The group is urging contributions. Info: SAIA, Box 719, Takoma, Washington 98401.

CAMBRIDGE-GODDARD Graduate School of Social Change is seeking faculty for the 1973-74 academic year. Located in Cambridge, Mass., the school was begun three years ago for those dissatisfied with conventional graduate education. Faculty are needed for projects in community organization, feminism, Marxism, radical media, and alternative institutions among others. Since the salary is only around \$2000 for each project most faculty also do other work in the Boston area. Interviewing is being done now through February. Persons who are interested in becoming students, who received an MA for a year's work, should write for a catalog. Info: People's Council, Cambridge-Goddard Graduate School for Social Change, 5 Upland Rd., Cambridge Mass. 02140.

IF you or your organization wish to take part in the National Organization for Women's Feminist Sexuality Project — a survey of women's sexual preferences and practices — send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Shere Hite, Feminist Sexuality Project, National Organization for Women, 28 E. 56 St., NYC NY 10022.

Farmworkers battle

THE United Farmworkers Union is presently confronted with a battle of survival against the American Farm Bureau Federation. The focus is the nationwide boycott of iceberg lettuce.

The Farm Bureau is aiming at the UFW's main tactic by attempting to have measures passed in 16 states making agricultural boycotts, such as the lettuce boycott and the successful grape boycott, illegal.

The Farm Bureau is a \$4,000,000,000 tax exempt organization that fronts a considerable

amount of John Birch activity and takes political stands against everything from child labor laws (12-year-old children should not be denied the right to work 14 hours a day in the fields) to boycotts, to the United Nations.

The farmworkers have faced formidable opponents in addition to the Farm Bureau. During the grape boycott, Ronald Reagan galvanized across the nation attributing his health and so-called "good looks" to eating grapes. The Defense Department increased its shipments of grapes to Vietnam from 468,000 pounds in 1967 to 2,167,000 pounds in 1969. The Nixon administration routinely gives tacit approval to the importation of illegal workers in order to break strikes and lower wages. A recent presidential appointee to the National Labor Relations Board attempted to have farmworkers covered by all the Board's restrictions without any of its protections.

Despite all of this, commitments to boycott iceberg lettuce in all institutions under their power have been received from Governors Gilligan (Ohio), Shapp (Pennsylvania), and Mayor Lindsay of New York. More are expected. In a July 22 article in Business Week, Interharvest President Harold Bradshaw estimated that the boycott is costing the lettuce industry \$200,000 a day. If this kind of boycott power can be sustained and/or increased, the growers will be the ones who come begging for serious contract negotiations, as they did in the grape strike.

— BARRY KIRSCHNER/AFS



CHRISTER THEMPTANDER/LNS

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HAPPENING CONT'D

CHRISTMAS PUPPET SHOW

"Freddy and the Wizard of Rock Creek Park," the children's puppet show now appearing week-ends at Rock Creek Park Nature center will have special weekday performances for the general public at 1 p.m. each day during Christmas week, Dec. 26 to Dec. 29. In this new show, Freddy, with the aid of a time machine, visits the past and future Rock Creek Park and its inhabitants. Info: 426-6700.

WASHINGTON MONUMENT OPEN NIGHTS

In order to get a better perspective of the Christmas pageant on the Ellipse, the Washington Monument will be open from 8 a.m. to midnight through Jan. 1st.

CURE FOR THAT BROWN THUMB

The "Green Scene's" Home Gardener Handbook, a 36-page booklet that offers advice and information on house plants, including how to keep Christmas poinsettias alive, is available free from the National Capital Parks by writing the Office of Public Affairs, 1100 Ohio Drive, SW, DC 20242. The Park Service also operates a telephone diagnostic center for ailing plants. Info: 282-7080.

FOOD TAX PETITION

Help is needed to circulate a petition to repeal the regressive 2% tax on sales of food. Volunteers are needed to present the petition to grocery shoppers in front of all city grocers and market. If you can help contact: No Representation, No-Taxation Committee, 1825 Columbia Road, NW, DC 20009 or 462-5150.

CHRISTMAS PARTY BENEFITS EX-CONVICTS

Efforts From Ex-Cons (EFEC) is sponsoring a Christmas party from 6 to 10 p.m., Dec. 21 at L'Enfant Plaza in the Skychief Room. Food is free, BYOL. Admission is by membership card only. Membership cards will be sold for \$3 at the door. Info: 483-3872.

NEW DC MINIMUM WAGE

Effective Jan. 22, the minimum wage for DC workers employed in private industry will be \$2.46. Other provisions include: \$2.25 an hour for adult learners, \$2.09 for employees under 18, and overtime compensation at 1 and 1/2 times the regular rate of pay after 40 hours of work. Copies of the new rules can be obtained from the Minimum Wage and Industrial Safety Board, 614 H Street, NW, Room 615, DC 20001 or 629-3565.

NORTHWEST METRO STOP HEARINGS SCHEDULED

METRO will hold hearings on planned subway stops at the Zoo, Cleveland Park and Van Ness-WTI on Jan. 16 at 7:30 p.m. Info: 484-2631. It has also been announced that the Connecticut Avenue line as far as Van Ness Street won't open until December 1977, a year later than expected earlier.

GI? STUDENT? OR JUST BROKE?

If you earn less than \$6500 a year, you can subscribe or renew to the Gazette for just \$2. Use the form below.

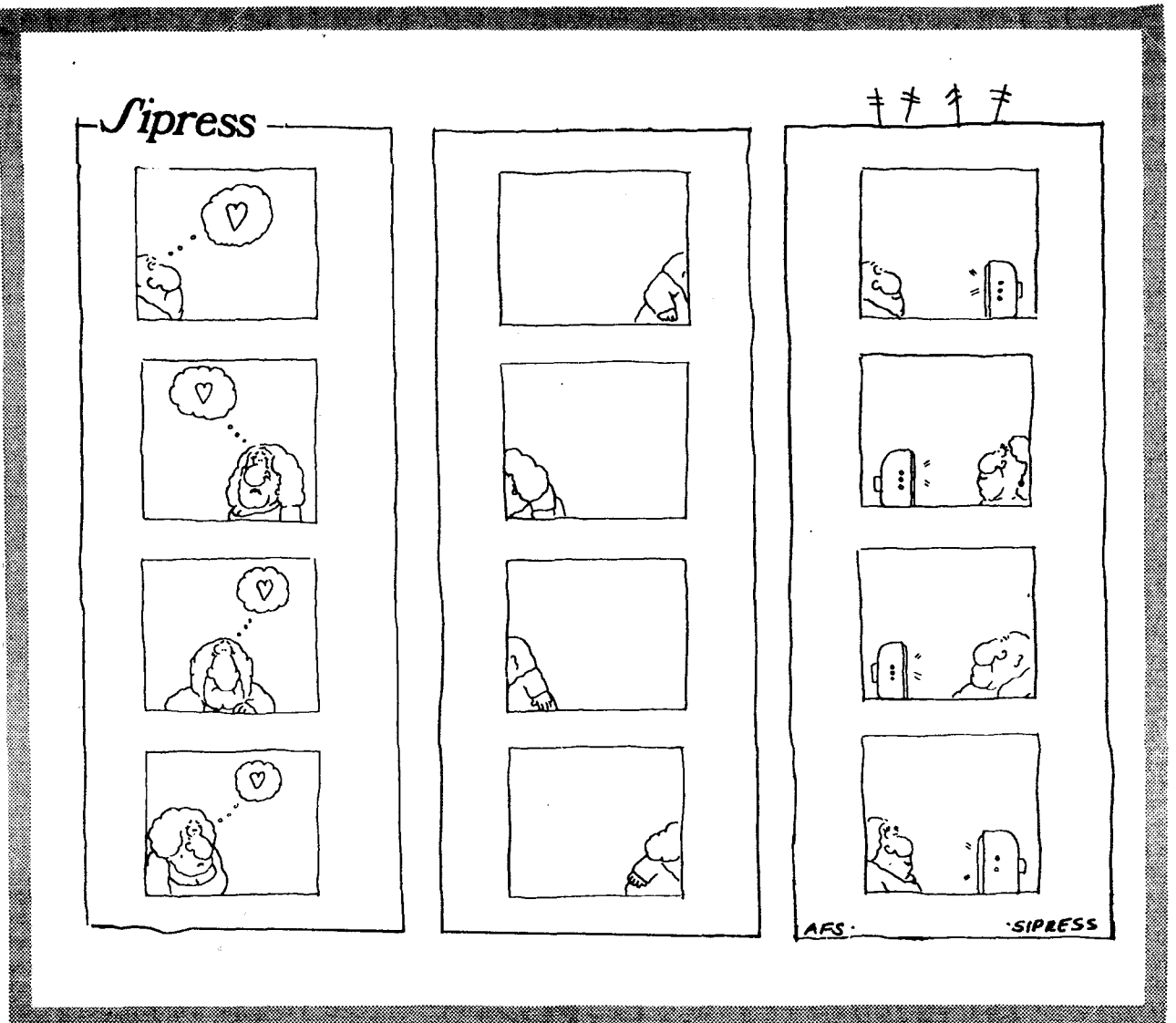
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STUDENTS CONT'D

that roughly 30% of local housing is denied students, and said "If the business community can take our money for bread, butter, and movies, it's pretty hard to figure out why our money isn't just as good for apartment rentals." Kennedy noted that the students still seek to be near their university and rent in Georgetown, in spite of the area's high rentals to be a part of the university and not merely a day commuter.

THIRY CONT'D

helps run at a hearing on plans for the Washington Technical Institute's new Northwest campus. Said Thiry, "The decay of cities of America is caused by things like we see before us today. The minute you make living uncomfortable - traffic, commotion, safety, - the next thing you move out..."

"Institutions, halfway houses are constantly encroaching on the privacy of good residential districts."

Speaking of low-income, black Washington, Thiry said, "We have great deference for that class of individual. There is another class of individual we seem to disregard. This is a real mistake. If we don't do something about it, we can count on the degeneration of the community."

The next day a group of community leaders called for Thiry to resign. Joe Gibson described Thiry's comments as "the most racist and classist statement made by anyone in the District of Columbia in a number of years."

Ralph Fertig put it more gently: "We have found in him one not willing to have a process of citizen review."

Thiry, however, had probably flown back to Seattle and didn't have much to worry about anyway. A few years ago, NCPC chairman Phillip Hammer tried to get Nixon not to reappoint Thiry to the commission. Nixon didn't listen and Thiry came back. Both Hammer and NCPC member Jim Gibson left the commission shortly afterwards.

The George Washington branch of the D.C. Public Interest Research Group has found and documented discrimination on three levels: financial, age (some landlords set minimum age limits for tenants at 21, in at least one case it is as high as 26), and refusal to accept co-signers. The requirement of a minimum level of income by some landlords works against students regardless of bank account, parental or even governmental support. Specifically, some landlords require the tenant to earn enough in one week to cover a month's rent.

GW PIRG charged that specific discrimination is being practiced by the real estate agents William C. Smith and Co., Norman Bernstein Realtors, Shannon and Luchs, and H.S. Smithee.

GW PIRG also pointed out that there is a lack of sufficient dormitory space on campus, due to the high cost of real estate in the area, saying that "at GW, only 13% of the students can be accommodated in residence halls. This means that 13,000 or 87% of the students must look for housing elsewhere."

Kirk White, aide to City Council vice chairman Sterling Tucker, appeared sympathetic in a meeting with student leaders. He noted that one reason for the existing discrimination was probably the prevalent stereotype of students as noisy and unreliable. Like any stereotype, it is an over-simplification and mostly inaccurate. At this point Gladys Kessler noted that she had seen few cases of students being hauled before the landlord - tenants board.

Specific discrimination against students in housing, White noted, is not exactly illegal - not yet. He expects first hearings on the matter to start after the city budget business, in early February. While cautioning that the fight can be expected to meet stiff opposition from landlord groups, specific legislation could be drafted and approved by late April, White said.

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